VISION IAS

Test -9

Indian Constitution & Political System

Political systems: concepts, forms and types

- Political system as established by the Constitution

Indian Constitution: Historical Underpinnings, Evolution & Making of the Constitution, Features, Significant Provisions

- The Preamble
- The Union and its Territory
- Citizenship
- Fundamental Rights, Directive Principle & Fundamental Duties
- Amendment of Constitution
- **Judiciary**: Supreme Court, High Courts, Subordinate Courts

+

Current Affairs (May 2021)

PT - 2022

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Test Booklet Series

C

TEST BOOKLET

GENERAL STUDIES (P) 2022 – Test – 3478

Time Allowed: Two Hours **Maximum Marks: 200**

INSTRUCTIONS

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2. ENCODE CLEARLY THE TEST BOOKLET SERIES **A, B, C** OR **D** AS THE CASE MAY BE IN THE APPROPRIATE PLACE IN THE ANSWER SHEET.

3. You have to enter your Roll Number on the Test Booklet in the Box provided alongside. **Do NOT** write anything else on the Test Booklet.

4. This Test Booklet contains **100** items (Questions). Each item is printed in **English.** Each item comprises four responses (answers). You will select the response which you want to mark on the Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there is more than one correct response with you consider the best. In any case, choose **ONLY ONE** response for each item.

5. You have to mark all your responses ONLY on the separate Answer Sheet provided. See direction in the answers sheet.

6. All items carry equal marks. Attempt all items. Your total marks will depend only on the number of **correct responses** marked by you in the answer sheet. For **every incorrect** response **1/3rd of the allotted marks** will be deducted.

7. Before you proceed to mark in the Answer sheet the response to various items in the Test booklet, you have to fill in some particulars in the answer sheets as per instruction sent to you with your Admission Certificate.

8. After you have completed filling in all responses on the answer sheet and the examination has concluded, you should hand over to Invigilator only the answer sheet. You are permitted to take away with you the Test Booklet.

9. Sheet for rough work are appended in the Test Booklet at the end.

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1. Consider the following statements with reference to the provisions related to the citizenship of India:

1. The constitution of India empowers the Centre and the states to enact laws for matters relating to the grant of citizenship.
2. According to the Constitution of India, an individual who migrated to Pakistan from India during partition and returned back later cannot become a citizen of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

2. Consider the following statements about the LUPEX mission:

1. It is a joint mission of ISRO and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency.
2. It would send a Zhurong rover and lander to explore the North Pole region of the Moon.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

3. Which of the following functions were performed by Constituent Assembly?

1. It ratified India's membership of the United Nations.
2. It elected Dr. Rajendra Prasad as the first President of India.
3. It abolished the privy purses.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

4. India's largest statue of the Reclining Buddha is being installed at the Buddha International Welfare Mission temple in Bodh Gaya. The state of 'reclining buddha' represents what?

(a) The Buddha during his last illness when he is about to enter Parinirvana.
(b) The Buddha in bliss after attaining nibbana (salvation).
(c) The Buddha in rest under the Bodhi tree after delivering sermons to his favourite disciples.
(d) The Buddha in resting position after having victory over Mara.

5. Consider the following statements regarding Representative Democracy:

1. In a representative democracy citizens can participate in making public decisions without the elected officials.
2. Referendum is an instrument of Representative Democracy.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

6. Which of the statements with regard to Ad-hoc judges of the Supreme Court is/are correct?

1. They are appointed by the Chief Justice of India with the previous consent of the President.
2. They are appointed when there is lack of quorum of the permanent judges to hold or continue any session of the Supreme Court.
3. It is their duty to attend the sittings of the Supreme Court, in priority to other duties of his office.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

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7. Consider the following statements with respect to National Legal Services Authority (NALSA):

1. It was constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to provide free legal services to the weaker sections of society.
2. The Chief Justice of India is the Patron-in-Chief of the NALSA.
3. NALSA disburses funds to NGOs for implementing legal aid programs.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3 only

8. Consider the following statements with respect to powers and jurisdictions of a High Court:

1. High Courts have the power to decide the Constitutional validity of Laws enacted by Parliament.
2. High Courts have original jurisdiction over disputes relating to the election of members of Parliament.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

9. Banni grasslands were in the news recently. Consider the following statements regarding Banni grasslands:

1. It is located in Bharuch district of Gujarat.
2. It is inhabited by Maldhari tribal communities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

10. 'Neptune Declaration', sometimes seen in the news is related to

(a) sustainable nitrogen management
(b) principles concerning gender equality
(c) promoting well being of seafarers
(d) decreasing emissions of greenhouse gases

11. The SUTRA model was in news recently, is associated with which of the following?

(a) It is used to predict the life span of a star.
(b) It is used to predict the covid graph in India.
(c) It is used by astronomers to estimate the distance of nearby objects in space.
(d) It is a collection on the theory and practice of Yoga.

12. With reference to Article 20 of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements regarding protection against double jeopardy:

1. A person cannot be prosecuted or punished twice for the same offense.
2. It is available in proceedings before judicial and administrative authorities.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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13. With reference to the Constituent Assembly, which of the following changes were introduced by the Indian Independence Act of 1947?

1. It empowered the Assembly to abrogate any law made by the British Parliament in relation to India.
2. It conferred the legislative powers over the Assembly.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

14. The Simorgh was in news recently, is associated with which of the following?

(a) A new bitcoin launched by UAE based company.
(b) Iran Saudi Arabia disputed gas field in Persian Gulf.
(c) New surface to air missile recently test-fired by Iran.
(d) Fastest supercomputer of Iran.

15. With reference to a district judge, consider the following statements:

1. He possesses original and appellate jurisdiction in both civil as well as criminal matters.
2. He has the power to impose any sentence including life imprisonment and capital punishment.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

16. Why is it important to separate religion from the state?

1. To protect people from any type of religious violence.
2. To provide freedom of religious conversion.
3. To enable the democratic functioning of a country.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

17. In the context of the Constitution of India, the expression 'dignity of the individual is explicitly mentioned in

(a) The Preamble
(b) The Directive Principles of the State Policy
(c) The Fundamental Duties
(d) The Fundamental Rights

18. With reference to Fundamental Rights and Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) in the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. Both impose restrictions on the function of the state.
2. While Fundamental Rights aim at establishing political democracy, DPSPs aim at establishing social and economic democracy.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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19. Consider the following statements with respect to the powers of the Supreme Court:

1. The power of the Supreme Court to decide the disputes regarding the election of the president is original and concurrent with the High Court.
2. The advice tendered by the Supreme Court regarding the investigation into the conduct of members of the Union Public Service Commission is binding on the President.
3. The Supreme Court's powers with respect to matters in the Union list can be enlarged by the President.

Which of the statements given above is/are ***not*** correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

20. Consider the following statements in the context of the appointment procedure of High court judges:

1. Chief Justice of the high court is appointed from outside the state.
2. There is no role of high court judges or state government in appointments of judges.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

21. Consider the following statements with reference to the Fundamental Duties:

1. Fundamental Duties are non-statutory in nature.
2. Fundamental Duties have been amended only once since their incorporation in the Constitution of India.
3. The concept of fundamental duties in the Indian Constitution has been taken from the Irish Constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

22. India was recently elected to three subsidiaries bodies of ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council) of the United Nations. In this context consider the following statements regarding ECOSOC:

1. It is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations System.
2. Its members are elected by the General Assembly.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

23. Which of the following is/are the features of an integrated judicial system in India?

1. Decisions of the Supreme Court are binding on all courts.
2. Separation of the judiciary from the executive
3. Power of High court to hear appeals from lower courts.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

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24. Which of the committees of the Constituent Assembly was/were chaired by the Jawaharlal Nehru?

1. Special Committee to Examine the Draft Constitution
2. Provincial Constitution Committee
3. Committee for Negotiating with States

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

25. With reference to Article 13 of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. Article 13 declares that all laws that are inconsistent with or in derogation of any of the fundamental rights shall be void.
2. The term 'law', may include both legislative and non-legislative sources of law.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

26. Which of the following Directive Principles of State Policy represent the ideology of liberalism?

1. Education for all children between the age of six and fourteen.
2. Separation of the executive from legislative in public services of the state.
3. Encouraging settlement of international disputes by arbitration.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

27. With reference to the State level Co-operative Societies, consider the following statements:

1. Election of members of society is supervised by the respective election commission.
2. The maximum number of directors of a state cooperative society is decided by the State Legislature.
3. Society is mandated to have at least two women on board of the society.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

28. Consider the following statements:

1. India has an elected head of state called the President.
2. Political sovereignty is vested in the people.
3. There is an absence of any privileged class.

Which of the above statements imply that India is a Republic?

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, and 3

29. What is the objective of the 17+1 initiative sometimes mentioned in news?

(a) It is an initiative of the USA and Latin American countries.
(b) It is an initiative of Euro Zone countries to attract foreign investment after BREXIT.
(c) It is an initiative of the USA to check the expansion of China in its backyard.
(d) It is a China-led initiative with an aim to expand cooperation between Beijing and the Central and Eastern European member countries.

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30. With reference to the Fundamental Rights of the Indian Constitution, which of the following statements is/are correct?

1. They are inspired by the Bill of Rights of the USA.
2. While some Fundamental Rights are justiciable, some are non-justiciable.
3. All the Fundamental Rights are available against the arbitrary actions of the state and private individuals.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 only
(b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) None

31. Which of the following statements is ***not*** correct in the context of the Blue Nature Alliance?

(a) It is an alliance of BRICS countries.
(b) The alliance aims to protect 5% of the world ocean in five years.
(c) The alliance aims to target seven ocean locations.
(d) It aims to enhance the GDP by promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

32. Which of the following require a constitutional amendment in India?

1. Ceding Indian territory to a foreign country
2. Settlement of a boundary dispute between India and another country
3. Diminish the areas of a state

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

33. With reference to a bill seeking amendments to the federal provisions of the Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. The bill can be introduced without prior permission of the president.
2. It must also be ratified by the legislatures of half of the states by a simple majority
3. The president must give his assent to the bill.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

34. MayFlower-400 sometimes seen in the news is associated with which of the following?

(a) Pro-democracy campaign launched by 400 protesters of Hong Kong.
(b) A new variety of orchids endemic to the Kanchenjunga Biosphere Reserve of Sikkim.
(c) A new variety of famed Neelakurinji flower that blossoms after 400 years in Munnar hills.
(d) An unmanned and completely autonomous ship powered by Artificial Intelligence.

35. Article 2 of the Constitution empowers the Parliament to

1. admit new states into the Union of India.
2. establish new states.
3. alter boundaries of a constituent state.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

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36. Consider the following statements regarding India Hydrogen Alliance (IH2A):

1. It mainly focuses on commercializing hydrogen technologies.
2. It is an initiative of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and Indian government.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

37. Consider the following pairs:

Project		***State***
1. Tapovan Vishnugad hydropower project	:	Uttar Pradesh
2. Arjun Sahayak Irrigation Project	:	Uttarakhand
3. Dagmara hydropower project	:	Madhya Pradesh

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) None

38. Recently NASA's Artemis programme was in the news. What is it?

(a) It is an asteroid sample return mission.
(b) It is a mission to boosting human space exploration on moon.
(c) It is a space debris collection mission.
(d) It is a mission to explore the possibilities of life on the exoplanet.

39. Which of the following committees/ commission recommended state reorganization based on language?

1. Dhar Commission
2. JVP Committee
3. Fazl Ali Commission

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

40. With reference to cooperative societies, consider the following statements:

1. The right to form a cooperative society is a Fundamental Right.
2. The states shall endeavor to promote the government-led functioning of cooperative societies.

Which of the statements given above is/are provisions under the Indian Constitution?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

41. Recently International Fund for Agricultural Development has supported an initiative to revive millet cultivation in the Dindori district of Madhya Pradesh. In this context, consider the following statements regarding millet cultuvation in India:

1. Millets are drought-resistant crops.
2. Unlike paddy or wheat they have a longer growing season.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

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42. Arrange the following states in their correct chronological order of establishment after independence?

1. Sikkim
2. Haryana
3. Goa
4. Nagaland

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1-2-3-4
(b) 4-2-3-1
(c) 4-2-1-3
(d) 3-2-1-4

43. Consider the following statements regarding Global Gender Gap Report 2021:

1. India is the leading performer among South Asian countries.
2. It is released by World Economic Forum.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

44. With reference to Constitutionalism, consider the following statements:

1. It denotes the principle that the government derives its authority from a body of fundamental law and is limited by it.
2. It cannot exist without a written constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

45. Consider the following statements with reference to the word "secular" in the Indian Constitution:

1. The word "secular" was not expressly mentioned in the constitution before the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act.
2. The concept of secularism as embodied in the Indian Constitution provides an absolute separation of state and religion.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

46. Consider the following statements with reference to the Citizenship Amendment Act of 2019:

1. The Act repealed the provisions of Commonwealth Citizenship.
2. The Act allows Indian Citizenship for certain religious communities who came to India before December 2014 from Afghanistan, Pakistan and Bangladesh only.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

47. Which of the following legal provisions aid the implementation of Fundamental Duties in India?

1. Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972
2. Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act of 1971
3. Representation of People Act of 1951

Select the correct answer from the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 3 only

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48. Which of the following countries has ***not*** ratified the United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (UNCLOS)?

(a) India
(b) Brazil
(c) China
(d) United States

49. Recently Dard Aryan tribes were in the news, they are predominantly found in which of the following states/UT?

(a) Sikkim
(b) Meghalaya
(c) Ladakh
(d) Andaman & Nicobar Islands

50. Which of the following provisions was/were introduced by the 44th Amendment Act, 1978?

1. It added a directive principle of state policy that requires the State to minimize inequalities in income, status, facilities, and opportunities.
2. It provided for a guaranteed compensation by the state for the acquisition of property of a minority educational institution.
3. It revoked judicial immunity to the declaration of a National Emergency.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

51. With reference to the Right to Equality in the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements regarding Articles 15 and 16:

1. Under both the articles, the state cannot discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth.
2. Under both the articles, the state is permitted to make any special provision for women and children.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

52. Consider the following statements:

1. According to the Constitution of India a distinguished jurist can be appointed as a judge of a High Court.
2. The Governor of a State administers the oath of office to the judges of the High court of the concerned State.
3. The salaries and pensions of judges of a High Court are determined by the President.

Which of the statements given is/are correct?

(a) 2 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

53. Lok Adalats do ***not*** have jurisdictions in respect of which of the following cases?

1. Land acquisition cases
2. Matters relating to divorce
3. Bank recovery cases

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1 only

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54. With reference to the four-fold classification of the states in 1950, consider the following pairs:

Part		*State*
1. Part A	:	Delhi
2. Part B	:	Jammu and Kashmir
3. Part C	:	Bihar
4. Part D	:	Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

55. With reference to Article 12 of the Indian Constitution, which of the following fall under the category of the state?

1. Parliament of India
2. Panchayat
3. Private body working as an instrument of the state

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

56. Which of the following are a part of the Fundamental Duties mentioned in part IV-A of the Constitution of India?

1. Democratic control and professional management of cooperative societies.
2. To have compassion for living creatures.
3. To provide opportunities for education of one's child or ward till the age of 18 years.
4. To value and preserve the rich heritage of the country's composite culture.

Select the correct answer from the code given below.

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

57. Consider the following statements regarding the nature of the Indian Federation:

1. The Indian federal system is based on the American model of the federation.
2. Unlike the American federation, the Indian federation is the result of an agreement among the states.
3. The states have no right to secede from the Indian federation.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1 and 3 only

58. Recently an underground nuclear facility at Natanz was in the news recently. It is located in

(a) Israel
(b) Afghanistan
(c) Turkmenistan
(d) Iran

59. With reference to Freedom of Religion in Part III of the Indian Constitution, consider the following statements:

1. The right to profess and practice any religion is absolute.
2. Taxes can be used by the state for the promotion of all religions.
3. Religious instruction is completely prohibited in institutions recognized by the state.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None

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60. Consider the following statements with respect to Family Courts Act, 1984:

1. It makes it obligatory for the state governments to set up a Family Court in every city with a population exceeding one million.
2. It provides for the association of social welfare agencies during conciliation stages.
3. It provides for only one right of appeal which shall lie to the District Court.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 3 only
(c) 1 and 2 only
(d) 2 and 3 only

61. Arrange the following events in chronological order:

1. Addition of a Fundamental Duty in part IV-A of the Constitution regarding the education of ward or child between the age of six and fourteen years.
2. The word "Integrity" was added to the Preamble.
3. Preamble was accepted as the part of the Indian Constitution by the Supreme Court

Select the correct answer from the code given below.

(a) 3-2-1
(b) 3-1-2
(c) 2-1-3
(d) 2-3-1

62. With reference to the writs of certiorari and prohibition, consider the following statements:

1. Both the writs can be issued against only judicial and quasi-judicial bodies.
2. Both the writs are both preventive as well as curative.
3. Unlike the writ of prohibition, the writ of certiorari can be sought by the aggrieved person.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) None

63. Which of the following is/are prohibited under Article 23 of the Indian Constitution?

1. Slavery
2. Compulsory work without remuneration
3. Child Labour

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

64. Which of the following constitutional provisions reveal the asymmetric federal character of the Indian State?

1. Imposition of President's Rule under Article 356
2. Division of Power under Schedule VII
3. Creation of Autonomous Districts Councils under Schedule VI
4. Representation of the states under Schedule IV

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 2 and 4 only

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65. Consider the following statements with respect to Permanent Lok Adalats:

1. Non-judicial members with experience in public utility services can be made members of Permanent Lok Adalats.
2. At present, the pecuniary jurisdiction of the Permanent Lok Adalat shall be up to rupees one crore.
3. The award of the Permanent Lok Adalat is final and binding upon the parties.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

66. Consider the following pairs with reference to features of the Indian constitution and polity:

Values/Features		***Inspired from***
1. Justice	:	Russian Revolution
2. Single Citizenship	:	British Constitution
3. Liberty	:	French Revolution

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 3 only

67. Consider the following statements regarding BioHub Initiative:

1. It aims to enhance the sharing of genetic information viruses and other pathogens between laboratories and partners globally.
2. This initiative has been launched jointly by WHO and government of Switzerland.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

68. Right to Freedom under Part III of the Indian Constitution, does ***not*** contain which one of the following rights?

(a) Protection in respect of conviction for offences
(b) Protection of life and personal liberty
(c) Right to elementary education
(d) Prohibition of employment of children in factories

69. Consider the following statements with reference to the Overseas Citizen of India Cardholder:

1. A person who originally belongs to Pakistan and is a spouse of an Indian citizen can become an Overseas Citizen of India Cardholder.
2. A person holding more than one nationality cannot apply for the Overseas Citizen of India Card.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

70. Consider the following statements with reference to the acquisition of citizenship of India:

1. The children of foreign diplomats posted in India can acquire Indian citizenship by birth.
2. An individual can acquire the citizenship of India by registration if he is an Indian origin individual who is ordinarily resident in any country or place outside undivided India.
3. A person registered as an Overseas Citizen of India Cardholder for 5 years and ordinarily residing in India for twelve months is eligible for grant of Indian Citizenship.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1, 2 and 3
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2 only
(d) 3 only

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71. What is RESPOND Project, sometimes seen in the news?

(a) It is a joint project of India and Japan in the Indian Ocean in response to China's Maritime Silk Road Project.

(b) It is a project of ISRO with the objective of encouraging academia to participate and contribute in various space-related research activities.

(c) It is a project launched by Russia and China to counter QUAD countries in the Pacific Ocean.

(d) It is a project of Russia's space agency Roscosmos designed to monitor the climate and environment in the Arctic region.

72. Right of free movement of which of the following is/are defined in Article 19?

1. Individual within the country
2. Individual across national borders
3. Movement of goods within the country

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1 and 2 only

(d) 1, 2 and 3

73. Which of the following provisions are enshrined in the Constitution of India to ensure independent functioning of the Supreme Court?

1. The salaries and allowances of Supreme Court judges cannot be changed to their disadvantage even during a financial emergency.
2. The pensions of the judges and the staff of the Supreme Court are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.
3. The retired judges of the Supreme Court are prohibited from pleading in any Court.
4. The Parliament can curtail the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court only after passing the bill to that effect by a special majority of each House of Parliament.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 4 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 1, 2 and 4 only

(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

74. With reference to the Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) in the Indian Constitution, consider the following pairs:

DPSP		***Category***
1. To secure the participation of workers in the management of industries	:	Liberal-Intellectual
2. To prohibit the consumption of intoxicating drinks	:	Socialist
3. To secure for all citizens a uniform civil code	:	Gandhian

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

(a) 1 only

(b) 2 and 3 only

(c) 3 only

(d) None

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75. Mr. X, an Indian citizen, was arrested under a preventive detention law made under Article 22 of the Indian Constitution. In this context, which one of the following has been provided under the Constitution of India?

1. He must have been arrested as per a law enacted by the Parliament.
2. All the facts related to his detention may or may not be communicated to him.
3. The detention cannot exceed three months unless an advisory board recommends so.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1, 2 and 3
(d) 1 and 2 only

76. With reference to the borrowed features of the Constitution, consider the following pairs:

Feature		***Source***
1. Concurrent List	:	Australia
2. Procedure established by Law	:	Japan
3. Nomination of members to Rajya Sabha	:	Canada

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

77. Consider the following statements regarding Martial Law and National Emergency:

1. In the case of both Martial Law and the National Emergency, ordinary law courts are suspended.
2. The imposition of both Martial Law and the National emergency affect Fundamental Rights.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

78. Consider the following statements with respect to subordinate courts:

1. The control over posting and promotion of persons belonging to the judicial service of a State is vested in the State Government.
2. The sessions judge has the power to impose any sentence including life imprisonment and capital punishment.
3. The chief judicial magistrate decides criminal cases which are punishable with imprisonment for a term up to seven years.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

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79. Consider the following differences between Unitary and Federal forms of government:

1. Federal system is based on the concept of consistency, whereas the division of power is the basis of Unitary government.
2. A federal government must have a written constitution, while a unitary government may not have a written constitution.
3. Unlike a federation, a unitary state has a rigid constitution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 3 only

80. Consider the following statements with respect to appeal by Special Leave to Supreme Court:

1. It is a discretionary power of the Supreme Court and cannot be claimed as a matter of right.
2. It can be granted in any judgment at an interlocutory stage.
3. It can be granted against any court and tribunal including a military court.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

81. Which of the following are the features of parliamentary government in India?

1. Presence of nominal and real executives
2. Parliamentary sovereignty
3. Collective Responsibility

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

82. Consider the following statements with reference to Contempt of Court:

1. The expression 'Contempt of court' has not been defined by the Constitution.
2. A court subordinate to the High court has no powers to initiate proceedings against a person for contempt of court.
3. Publication of matter that lowers the authority of a court comes under the Criminal Contempt of court.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

83. With reference to provisions mentioned the Constitution of India, consider the following statements:

1. No civil or criminal proceedings can be instituted against the President under any condition during his term of office.
2. The President or the Governor is not answerable to any court for the exercise of the powers of his office.

Which of the statements given above is/are ***not*** correct?

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

84. Advanced Chaff Technology recently seen in the news has application in which of the following fields?

(a) Agriculture
(b) Naval Defence
(c) Health and Medicine
(d) Climate Change

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85. Consider the following pairs:

Species in the news		***States/Region***
1.Schistura Hiranyakeshi	:	Eastern Ghats
2. Disk-footed bat	:	Meghalaya
3. Asian Gracile skink	:	Tamil Nadu

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

86. Recently World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has approved dried blood spot (DBS) testing technique for the screening of banned substances at Tokyo Olympics. This test is also used widely for the diagnosis of:

1. HIV
2. Hepatitis B
3. Hepatitis C

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

87. Which of the following modes of acquisition of Citizenship of India require an oath of allegiance to the Constitution of India?

1. Acquisition of citizenship by Registration
2. Acquisition of citizenship by Naturalisation
3. Acquisition of citizenship by Incorporation of Territory
4. Acquisition of citizenship by Birth

Select the correct answer from the code given below.

(a) 1, 2, 3 and 4
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 4 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

88. Consider the following statements with respect to Public Interest Litigation (PIL):

1. Only the aggrieved person can file PIL in court.
2. Both the Supreme Court and High Court have the power to entertain a Public Interest Litigation.
3. The term 'Public Interest Litigation' is mentioned in the Constitution of India.

Which of the statements given above is/are ***not*** correct?

(a) 3 only
(b) 2 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

89. Which of the principles were explicitly laid down by Objectives Resolution?

1. Residuary powers to the Union
2. Safeguards for minorities
3. Promotion of world peace
4. People of India as the source of all power and authority

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

90. Umngot River, recently seen in the news, flows in which of the following states?

(a) Mizoram
(b) Nagaland
(c) Assam
(d) Meghalaya

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91. Which of the following can be amended with the simple majority of Parliament?

1. Delimitation of constituencies.
2. Changes in the Union List.
3. Conferment of more jurisdiction on the Supreme Court.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

92. The writ of habeas corpus cannot be issued in which of the following circumstances?

1. where the person against whom the writ is issued or the person who is detained is not within the jurisdiction of the Court
2. to secure the release of a person who has been imprisoned by a court of law on a criminal charge
3. to interfere with the proceeding for contempt by a court of record or by Parliament

Select the correct answer using the code given below

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

93. Which of the following best describes 'Technocracy'?

(a) It is a form of government in which religious leaders acting in the name of God rule the state.
(b) It is a form of government in which a few elite citizens rule.
(c) It is a form of government in which experts in technology would be in control of decision making.
(d) It is a power structure in which power effectively rests with the wealthy.

94. Which of the following conditions can lead to the loss of Indian Citizenship of an individual?

1. Acquiring citizenship of another country
2. Unlawful trade with the enemy during a war
3. A citizen of India ordinarily resident out of India for 5 years

Select the correct answer from the code given below.

(a) 1 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 3 only
(d) 1 and 2 only

95. Which of the following are the main features of a Republic country?

1. The head of the state is always elected directly by the people for a fixed period.
2. Political sovereignty vested in the people of the country.
3. Absence of any privileged class.

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

96. Chad a landlocked country was in the news recently. It is bordered by which of the following countries?

1. Libya
2. Nigeria
3. Sudan
4. Egypt

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2 and 4 only

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97. Consider the following statements with respect to the process of removal of judges of the Supreme Court:

1. The removal motion can be introduced either in the Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha.
2. The Leader of Opposition is included in the Committee to investigate the charges mentioned in the motion.
3. The removal motion must be signed by one-fourth of the total members of the House.
4. No judge of the Supreme Court has been impeached so far.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

(a) 1 and 4 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3 only

98. Consider the following statements with respect to Judiciary in India:

1. Both India and the USA have integrated judicial systems with Supreme Court at the top.
2. A Supreme Court judge can resign his office by writing to the Chief Justice of India.
3. The Supreme Court of India is empowered to constitute all India Judicial Service.

Which of the statements given above are ***not*** correct?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

99. Which of the following are the federal features of the Indian Constitution?

1. Division of Power
2. Bicameralism
3. Supremacy of the Constitution
4. All-India Services

Select the correct answer using the code given below.

(a) 1, 2 and 3 only
(b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only
(d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

100. With reference to the evolution of balance between Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP) and Fundamental Rights (FR), consider the following pairs

Case		***Judgement***
1. Champakam Dorairajan Case (1951)	:	DPSPs have to conform to and run as subsidiary to the FRs.
2. Golaknath Case (1967)	:	FRs cannot be amended for the implementation of the DPSPs.
3. Minerva Mills Case (1980)	:	Supremacy to all the DPSPs over the FRs conferred by Articles 14 and 19.

Which of the pairs given above are correctly matched?

(a) 1 and 2 only
(b) 1 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 3 only
(d) 1, 2 and 3

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ANSWERS & EXPLANATIONS
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Q 1.D

- The **Constitution deals with citizenship from Articles 5 to 11 under Part II**. However, it contains neither any permanent nor any elaborate provisions in this regard. It only identifies the persons who became citizens of India at its commencement (i.e., on January 26, 1950). It does not deal with the problem of acquisition or loss of citizenship subsequent to its commencement. **It empowers the Parliament to enact a law to provide for such matters and any other matter relating to citizenship. Since citizenship, naturalization, alien (Subject 17) is a subject under the Union List, the Parliament (state legislatures have no power) has enacted the Citizenship Act, 1955, which has been amended in 1986, 1992, 2003, and 2005. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **According to the Constitution, the following four categories of persons became the citizens of India at its commencement i.e., on 26 January 1950:**
  - A person who had his domicile in India and also fulfilled any one of the three conditions, viz., if he was born in India; or if either of his parents was born in India; or if he has been ordinarily resident in India for five years immediately before the commencement of the Constitution, became a citizen of India (Article 5).
  - A person who migrated to India from Pakistan became an Indian citizen if he or either of his parents or any of his grandparents was born in undivided India and also fulfilled any one of the two conditions viz., in case he migrated to India before July 19, 19481, he had been ordinarily resident in India since the date of his migration; or in case he migrated to India on or after July 19, 1948, he had been registered as a citizen of India. But, a person could be so registered only if he had been resident in India for six months preceding the date of his application for registration (Article 6).
  - A **person who migrated to Pakistan from India after March 1, 1947, but later returned to India for resettlement could become an Indian citizen. For this, he had to be resident in India for six months preceding the date of his application for registration (Article 7). Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
  - A person who, or any of whose parents or grandparents, was born in undivided India but who is ordinarily residing outside India shall become an Indian citizen if he has been registered as a citizen of India by the diplomatic or consular representative of India in the country of his residence, whether before or after the commencement of the Constitution. Thus, this provision covers the overseas Indians who may want to acquire Indian citizenship (Article 8).

Q 2.A

- **LUPEX Mission: The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the Japanese space agency, Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA), two are collaborating on, in particular the Lunar Polar Exploration (LUPEX) mission** that is likely to be launched sometime **in 2024**. It involves **sending a lander and rover on the Moon's south pole region**, much like Chandrayaan-2 attempted. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - It is an earth observation, lunar exploration, and satellite navigation mission. The Lupex mission is being planned to demonstrate new surface exploration technologies related to vehicular transport and lunar night survival for sustainable lunar exploration in the polar regions — the south pole of the Moon in this case. The mission will use a lunar features-matching algorithm along with navigational equipment from **JAXA's Smart Lander for Investigating Moon mission**, and the rover will carry instruments from both the space agencies. The launcher and rover are to be developed by Japan and the lander system will be developed by India.

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- **Tianwen-1:** China's first Mars probe is called Tianwen-1 (formerly Huoxing 1). The spacecraft consists of an orbiter, a lander, and a rover.
    - **Zhurong:** It is a Mars rover that is **China's first rover** to land on another planet. It is part of the Tianwen-1 mission to Mars conducted by the China National Space Administration (CNSA). China's first Mars rover will be named Zhurong after a traditional fire god. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 3.B

- In addition to the making of the Constitution and enacting of ordinary laws, the **Constituent Assembly also performed the following functions:**
    - It ratified India's membership of the Commonwealth in May 1949.
    - It adopted the national flag on July 22, 1947.
    - It adopted the national anthem on January 24, 1950.
    - It adopted the national song on January 24, 1950.
    - It elected Dr **Rajendra Prasad** as the first President of India on January 24, 1950. **Hence option 2 is correct.**
- India ratified the **UN membership** on 26 June 1945 during the British time. **Hence, option 1 is not correct.**
- On January 24, 1950, the Constituent Assembly held its final session. It, however, did not end, and continued as the provisional parliament of India from January 26, 1950, till the formation of new Parliament after the first general elections in 1951–52.
- During this period, the Central Legislature which was known as Constituent Assembly (Legislative) and later Provisional Parliament was unicameral till the first elections were held in 1952.
- The **privy purses** continued to be paid to the royal families until the 26th Amendment in 1971, by which all their privileges and allowances from the central government ceased to exist, which was implemented after a two-year legal battle. **Hence, option 3 is not correct.**
    - In India, a privy purse was a payment made to the ruling families of erstwhile princely states as part of their agreements to first integrate with India in 1947 after the independence of India, and later to merge their states in 1949, thereby ending their ruling rights.

Q 4.A

- **Recent Context:** India's largest statue of the Reclining Buddha is being installed at the Buddha International Welfare Mission temple in Bodh Gaya.
- **About Reclining Buddha: A reclining Buddha statue represents the Buddha during his last illness, about to enter Parinirvana - the stage of great salvation after death that can only be attained by enlightened souls. Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**
- Statues of Reclining Buddha show him lying on his right side, his head resting on a cushion or on his right elbow. It is meant to show that all beings have the potential to be awakened and be released from the cycle of death and rebirth.
- **The Reclining Buddha was first depicted in Gandhara art - which began in between 50 BC and 75 AD, and peaked during the Kushana period from the 1st – 5th centuries AD.**
- **Reclining Buddha in India**: Cave No. 26 of Ajanta contains a 24-foot-long and nine-foot-tall sculpture of the Reclining Buddha, believed to have been carved in the 5th century AD.
    - Kushinagar (present day Uttar Pradesh – where Buddha attained parinirvana) has a 6-metre-long red sandstone monolith statue of the Reclining Buddha inside the Parinirvana Stupa.
- **The largest Reclining Buddha in the world is the 600-foot Winsein Tawya Buddha built in 1992 in Mawlamyine, Myanmar.**

Q 5.D

- Democracies fall into two basic categories, direct and representative. In a direct democracy, all citizens, without the intermediary of elected or appointed officials, can participate in making public decisions.
- In a representative democracy, people vote for representatives who then enact policy initiatives. The key difference between the two systems is who is voting on laws, elected officials or the citizens. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Direct democracy describes those rules, institutions and processes that enable the public to vote directly on a proposed constitutional amendment, law, treaty or policy decision. **Various instruments of direct democracy include:**
    - **Referendums; Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
    - Citizens' initiatives
    - Plebiscite
    - Agenda initiatives

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Q 6.D

- **Recent Context:** Central Government told the Supreme Court (SC) that the appointment of additional judges on ad-hoc basis in High Courts (HC) under Article 224A of the Constitution can be done only after the filling up of regular vacancies of judges.
  - SC had earlier sought the views of the Centre on appointing ad-hoc High Court judges to tackle the problem of mounting case arrears.
  - At this, the top court clarified that the idea behind having temporary judges in the high courts emanated from the necessity of urgently dealing with the massive pendency of cases and that it could not be understood as a substitute for regular appointments. •
  - Court also said that it intends to lay guidelines for appointment of ad hoc judges by considering criteria like pendency figure and the vacancy situation.
- **About Ad-hoc Judges**
  - Articles 127 and 224 and 224A provides for appointment of Ad-hoc judges to SC and HC.
  - Under Article 127, **to address lack of quorum of judges, the Chief Justice of India, with the previous consent of the President** and after consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court concerned can appoint a judge as an ad hoc Judge. **Hence statements 1 and 2 are correct.**
  - Under Article 224 and 224A, additional or acting judges can be appointed for a period not exceeding 2 years or 62 years of age whichever is earlier to address a temporary rise in the business of the HC.
  - **It is the duty of the judge so appointed to attend the sittings of the Supreme Court, in priority to other duties of his office. Hence statement 3 is correct.** While so attending, he enjoys all the jurisdiction, powers and privileges (and discharges the duties) of a judge of the Supreme Court.

Q 7.C

- **The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)** has been constituted under the **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987** to provide free Legal Services to the weaker sections of the society and to organize Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes. **The Chief Justice of India is the Patron-in-Chief. Hence statements 1 and 2 are correct.**
- In every State, State Legal Services Authority has been constituted to give effect to the policies and directions of the NALSA and to give free legal services to the people and conduct Lok Adalats in the State. The State Legal Services Authority is headed by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of the respective High Court who is the Patron-in-Chief of the State Legal Services Authority. The **District Legal Services Authority** is situated in the District Courts Complex in every District and **chaired by the District Judge** of the respective district.
- Legal Services Authorities after examining the eligibility criteria of an applicant and the existence of a prima facie case in his favor provide him, counsel, at **State expense, pay the required Court Fee** in the matter and bear all incidental expenses in connection with the case. The person to whom legal aid is provided is **not called upon to spend anything on the litigation** once it is supported by a Legal Services Authority.
- National Legal Services Authority is the apex body constituted to lay down policies and principles for making legal services available under the provisions of the Act and to frame most effective and economical schemes for legal services. It also **disburses funds** and grants to State Legal Services Authorities and **NGOs for implementing legal aid schemes and programmes. Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 8.C

- The Constitution of India provides for a high court for each state, but the **Seventh Amendment Act of 1956** authorized the Parliament to establish a **common high court** for two or more States or for two or more states and a union territory. High Court is the highest court of appeal in the state. It is the **protector of the Fundamental Rights** of the citizens. It is vested with the power to interpret the Constitution. Besides, it has supervisory and consultative roles.
- **Original Jurisdiction of High Court:**
  - It means the power of a high court to hear disputes in the first instance, not by way of appeal. It extends to the following:
  - Matters of admiralty and contempt of court.
  - **Disputes relating to the election of members of Parliament. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
  - Enforcement of fundamental rights of citizens. etc.
- **Writ Jurisdiction:**
  - **Article 226 of the Constitution** empowers a high court to issue writs including habeas corpus, mandamus, certiorari, prohibition, and quo warranto for the enforcement of the fundamental rights of

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the citizens and for any other purpose. The **writ jurisdiction of the high court (under Article 226)** is not exclusive but concurrent with the writ jurisdiction of the Supreme Court (under Article 32). In the Chandra Kumar case9 (1997), the Supreme Court ruled that the writ jurisdiction of both the high court and the Supreme Court constitute a part of the basic structure of the Constitution. Hence, it **cannot be ousted or excluded even by way of an amendment to the Constitution.**

- Though the phrase 'judicial review' has nowhere been used in the Constitution, the provisions of **Articles 13 and 226 explicitly confer the power of judicial review on a high court.** The constitutional validity of a legislative enactment or an executive order can be challenged in a high court on the following three grounds:
  - it infringes the fundamental rights (Part III),
  - it is outside the competence of the authority which has framed it, and
  - it is repugnant to the constitutional provisions.
- The 42nd Amendment Act of 1976 curtailed the judicial review power of the high court. It debarred the high courts from considering the **constitutional validity of any central law.** However, the **43rd Amendment Act of 1977 restored the original position. Hence statement 1 is correct.**

Q 9.B

- **Recent Context:** In May, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) ordered all encroachments to be removed from Gujarat's Banni grasslands within six months and directed a joint committe to prepare an action plan in a month.
  - **The region's nomadic pastoralist community, the Maldharis, whose livelihoods are depend on this protected shrub-savanna, welcomed the move. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Banni Grassland Reserve is in the Kutch district of Gujarat. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
  - Banni region emerged from the sea as a result of tectonic activities, received soils from the rivers flown from Bhuj mainland which made the land of Banni richer to generate diverse grass species.

Q 10.C

- **The Neptune Declaration on Seafarer Wellbeing and Crew Change** aims to **promote and protect the welfare of seafarers.** It was launched in response to the crew change crisis, which has resulted in around 400,000 seafarers stranded on ships because of coronavirus-related travel bans.
- More than 700 companies and organisations have signed the Neptune Declaration as of March 2021. It primarily focuses on **recognising seafarers as key workers by all governments worldwide** in line with the UN General Assembly resolutions. The Declaration also highlights the implementation of high-quality health protocols aboard cargo vessels world-wide. **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**
- Maritime body Martime Union of India (MUI) urged the government to take cognisance of 'Neptune Declaration on Seafarer Wellbeing and Crew Change' in the formulation of **Maritime India Vision 2030.** The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways of India will be formulating 'Maritime India Vision'.

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Q 11.B

- **SUTRA Model:** The acronym stands for Susceptible, Undetected, Tested (positive), and Removed Approach. Scientists from the **IITs of Kanpur and Hyderabad have applied the SUTRA Model to predict the Covid graph in India. Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**
  - The model uses three main parameters to predict the course of the pandemic which are:
    - ✓ **Beta:** Also called contact rate, which measures how many people an infected person infects per day. It is related to the R0 value, which is the number of people an infected person spreads the virus to over the course of their infection.
    - ✓ **Reach:** It is a measure of the exposure level of the population to the pandemic.
    - ✓ **Epsilon:** It is the ratio of detected and undetected cases.
  - **SUTRA Model – Challenges** One of the key causes of unsuccessful outcomes of the SUTRA Model is the rapidly changing mutants of the virus. Scientists have stated that it is clear that the nature of the virus has been changing very rapidly. In such a context, any prediction for COVID-19 must be continually readjusted, sometimes almost daily. Mathematical models by **SUTRA are only effective if the virus dynamics remain constant.**

Q 12.A

- **Article 20 (2)** of the Indian Constitution mandates that a person cannot be prosecuted or punished twice for the same offence. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The protection against double jeopardy is available only in proceedings before a **court of law or a judicial tribunal.** In other words, it is not available in proceedings before departmental or administrative authorities as they are not of judicial nature. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- The protection under clause (2) of Article 20 of the Constitution of India is **narrower than the American and British laws against Double Jeopardy**.
  - Under the American and British Constitution, the protection against Double Jeopardy is given for the second prosecution for the same offence irrespective of whether an accused was acquitted or convicted in the first trial.
  - But under Article 20(2) the protection against double punishment is given only when the accused has not only been 'prosecuted' but also 'punished', and is sought to be prosecuted a second time for the same offence.
  - The use of the word 'prosecution' thus limits the scope of the protection under clause (1) of Article 20.
  - If there is no punishment for the offence as a result of the prosecution clause (2) of Article 20 has no application and an appeal against acquittal, if provided by the procedure is in substance a continuance of the prosecution.

Q 13.C

- The Indian Independence Act of 1947 made the following three changes in the position of the Assembly:
  - The Assembly was made a fully sovereign body, which could frame any Constitution it pleased. The act empowered the Assembly to abrogate or alter any law made by the British Parliament in relation to India. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
  - The Assembly also became a legislative body. In other words, two separate functions were assigned to the Assembly, that is, making of a constitution for free India and enacting of ordinary laws for the country. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - The above two tasks were to be performed on separate days.
    - ✓ Thus, the Assembly became the first Parliament of free India (Dominion Legislature). Whenever the Assembly met as the Constituent body it was chaired by Dr. Rajendra Prasad and when it met as the legislative body, it was chaired by G V Mavlankar.
    - ✓ These two functions continued till November 26, 1949, when the task of making the Constitution was over.
  - The Muslim League members (hailing from the areas included in the Pakistan) withdrew from the Constituent Assembly for India. Consequently, the total strength of the Assembly came down to 299 as against 389 originally fixed in 1946 under the Cabinet Mission Plan. The strength of the Indian provinces (formerly British Provinces) was reduced from 296 to 229 and those of the princely states from 93 to 70.
  - With the commencement of the Constitution, the Indian Independence Act of 1947 and the Government of India Act of 1935, with all enactments amending or supplementing the latter Act, were repealed. The Abolition of Privy Council Jurisdiction Act (1949) was however continued.

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Q 14.D

- **Simorgh: Iran** has unveiled a new supercomputer named 'Simorgh', which is 100 times more powerful than the previous supercomputer of the country to date. The Supercomputer has been named after the **phoenix-like bird called the Simurgh**. The **Simorgh Supercompute**r was developed by the Amirkabir University of Technology in Tehran, the capital of Iran. It is located at the Iranian High-Performance Computing Research Centre.
- The performance capacity of the Simorgh Supercomputer is 0.56 petaflops. It is to reach 1 petaflop in two months. In its subsequent levels, it is to reach a speed of 10 petaflops.
- The Supercomputer is to be **used for image processing, artificial intelligence workload, traffic and weather data**. It will also be used for cloud hosting local private firms.
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 15.C

- The district judge is the highest judicial authority in the district.
- He possesses original and appellate jurisdiction in both civil as well as criminal matters. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- In other words, the district judge is also the sessions judge. When he deals with civil cases, he is known as the district judge and when he hears the criminal cases, he is called a sessions judge. **The sessions judge has the power to impose any sentence including life imprisonment and capital punishment (death sentence). Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- However, a capital punishment passed by him is subject to confirmation by the High court, whether there is an appeal or not.

Q 16.D

- India adopted a strategy of separating the power of religion and the power of the State. Secularism refers to this separation of religion from the State. The Indian Constitution allows individuals the freedom to live by their religious beliefs and practise it.
- The most important aspect of secularism is its separation of religion from State power. This is important for a country to function democratically and prevent religious violence as described below:
    - Almost all countries of the world have more than one religious group living in them. Within these religious groups, there will most likely be one group that is in a majority. If this **majority religious group** has access to State power, then it could quite easily use this power and financial resources to discriminate against and **persecute persons of other religions.** This tyranny of the majority could result in discrimination, coercion and at times even the killing of religious minorities. The majority could quite easily prevent minorities from practising their religions. Any form of domination based on religion is in **violation of the rights** that a democratic society guarantees to each and every citizen irrespective of their religion. Therefore, the tyranny of the majority and the violation of Fundamental Rights that can result is one reason why it is important to separate the State and religion in democratic societies.
- Another reason that it is important to separate religion from the State in democratic societies is that we also need to protect the **freedom of individuals to exit from their religion**, embrace another religion or have the freedom to interpret religious teachings differently.
- **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 17.A

- **The dignity of the individual is explicitly mentioned in the Preamble of the Indian Constitution.**
- The Preamble declares that f**raternity has to assure two things – The dignity of the individual and the Unity and Integrity of the nation.**
- In Directive Principles of State Policy, **Article 51A** says that it shall be the duty of every citizen of India to promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all people of India transcending religious, linguistics, regional, or sectional diversities.
- In fundamental Duties, it is mentioned that **practices derogatory to the dignity of the women must be renounced.**
- In fundamental rights, **Under Article 21, the right to life also includes the right to live with human dignity and the dignity of the individual. This has been reaffirmed by the Supreme Court in its Judgement in the Menaka Gandhi case (1978). However, it is not explicitly mentioned.**
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

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Q 18.B

- While **Fundamental Rights are negative** as they prohibit the State from doing certain things, **DPSPs are positive** as they require the State to do certain things. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- DPSPs aim at establishing **social and economic democracy** in the country and Fundamental Rights aims at establishing **political democracy** in the country. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- Fundamental Rights have **Legal sanctions** and DPSPs have **moral and political sanctions.**

Q 19.C

- Supreme Court decides the disputes regarding the **election of the president** and the vice-president. In this regard, it has the original, **exclusive** and final authority. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- It enquires into the conduct and behaviour of the chairman and **members of the Union Public Service Commission** on a reference made by the president. If it finds them guilty of misbehaviour, it can recommend to the president for their removal. The advice tendered by the Supreme Court in this regard is **binding on the President. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- It has the power to review its own judgement or order. Thus, it is not bound by its previous decision and can depart from it in the interest of justice or community welfare. In brief, the Supreme Court is a self-correcting agency. For example, in the Kesavananda Bharati case (1973), the Supreme Court departed from its previous judgement in the Golak Nath case (1967).
- It is authorised to withdraw the cases pending before the high courts and dispose them by itself. It can also transfer a case or appeal pending before one high court to another high court.
- Its law is binding on all courts in India. Its decree or order is enforceable throughout the country. All authorities (civil and judicial) in the country should act in aid of the Supreme Court. It has power of judicial superintendence and control over all the courts and tribunals functioning in the entire territory of the country.
- The **Supreme Court's jurisdiction** and powers with respect to matters in the Union list can be **enlarged by the Parliament.** Further, its jurisdiction and powers with respect to other matters can be enlarged by a special agreement of the Centre and the states. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 20.C

- **Recent Context**: Supreme court has questioned the central government for its delay in the implementation of recommendations for Judges' appointment in various high courts. The Attorney General of India has offered to decide in three months.
- Background: Over 220 judges' appointment is pending in various high courts for over six months.
- **How judges of the High court are appointed:**
  - They are appointed by the **president**.
  - **For chief justice of high court**: President consults Chief justice of India and Governor of the state. (seniority principle does not function here unlike the supreme court)
  - **For other judges**: apart from the above three, the chief justice of the concerned high court is also consulted.
  - For common high courts: governors of all concerned states are also consulted.
  - It simply means **there is no role of high court judges or state government in the appointment of judges**. The word consultation has remained very controversial. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- Memorandum of Procedure on the appointment of judges advocates Chief Justice to be from the outside state**. Hence statement 1 is correct**

Q 21.A

- The Fundamental Duties were incorporated in Part IV-A of the Constitution by the Constitution 42nd Amendment Act, 1976. Today, there are 11 Fundamental Duties described under Article 51-A, of which 10 were introduced by the 42nd Amendment and the **11th was added by the 86th Amendment in 2002, thus they have been amended only once since their incorporation. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **These are statutory duties, not enforceable by law**, but a court may take them into account while adjudicating a matter. The idea behind their incorporation was to emphasize the obligation of the citizen in exchange for the Fundamental Rights that he or she enjoys. The concept of Fundamental Duties is taken from the Constitution of the erstwhile USSR. **Hence statement 1 is not correct**
- Notably, none of the constitutions of major democratic countries like the USA, Canada, France, Germany, Australia, and so on specifically contain a list of duties of citizens**. Japanese Constitution is perhaps, the only democratic Constitution in the world apart from the Indian Constitution that contains a**

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list of duties of citizens. The socialist countries, on the contrary, gave equal importance to the fundamental rights and duties of their citizens. Hence, the Constitution of the erstwhile USSR declared that the citizen's exercise of their rights and freedoms was inseparable from the performance of their duties and obligations. **Hence statement 3 is not correct**

Q 22.C

- **Recent Context – Recently, India has been elected to three subsidiary bodies of Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).** They are:
  - **Commission on the status of Women** – It is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. It was established in June 1946 as a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council.
  - **Commission on Population and Development** – It assists ECOSOC in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development.
  - **Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC)** – It is the main subsidiary organ of the ECOSOC and the UN's General Assembly for planning, programming and coordination.
- The three-year term for India will begin from January 1, 2022
- **About ECOSOC**
  - **It is one of the 6 principal organs of the United Nations System established by the UN Charter in 1945. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - It serves as the central forum for discussing international economic and social issues, and for formulating policy recommendations addressed to Member States and the United Nations system.
  - It has **54 members, elected by the General Assembly for overlapping three-year terms. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
  - It coordinates the work of the 14 UN specialized agencies, ten functional commissions and five regional commissions, receives reports from nine UN funds and programmes and issues policy recommendations to the UN system and to member states.
  - **Few important bodies under the purview of ECOSOC:**
    - ✓ International labour Organization (ILO)
    - ✓ Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
    - ✓ United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
    - ✓ World Health Organization (WHO)
    - ✓ Bretton Woods Twins (World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund)
    - ✓ United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
  - Apart from these there are various Functional and Regional Commissions, Standing Committees, Ad Hoc and Expert Bodies as well.

Q 23.C

- The Constitution of India provides for a single integrated judicial system with the Supreme Court at the apex, High Courts at the middle (state) level and District Courts at the local level. It also provides for an independent and powerful judicial system.
  - **Single and Integrated Judicial System:**
    - ✓ The Supreme Court of India is the highest court of the country and below it are the High Courts at the state level.

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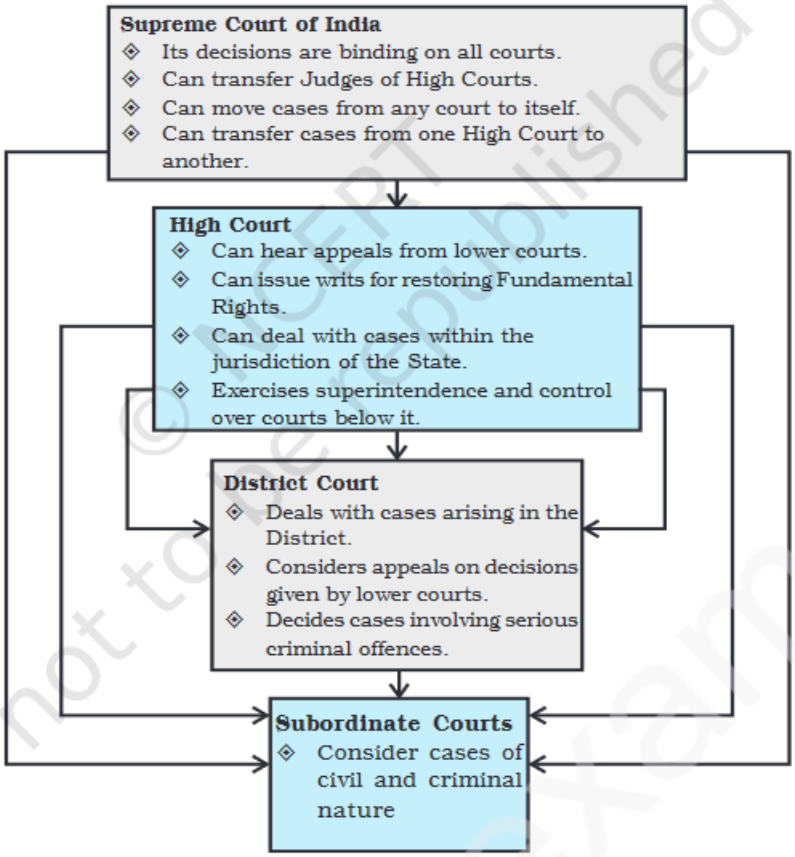
- ✓ Other courts (Subordinate Courts) work under the High Courts. The Supreme Court controls and runs the judicial administration of India.
- ✓ All courts in India form links of a single judicial system.



- From the above chart, it can be interpreted that **options 1 and 3 are correct.**

- It provides for the **independence of the Judiciary** through the following features:
  - Appointment of judges by the President
  - Removal of judges through impeachment
  - Functional autonomy for the Judiciary etc.
  - Obligation over the State to separate the judiciary from the executive (Article 50). **Hence, option 2 is not correct.**
    - ✓ Appointment of judges by the collegium system.
    - ✓ Determination of salaries, allowances etc by the Parliament.
    - ✓ Judges of the Supreme Court are provided with the Security of Tenure.
    - ✓ Conduct of Judges cannot be Discussed etc.

Q 24.C

- The Constituent Assembly appointed a number of committees to deal with different tasks of constitution-making. Out of these, eight were major committees and the others were minor committees. The names of these committees and their chairmen are given below:
- **Major Committees**
  - Union Powers Committee – Jawaharlal Nehru
  - Union Constitution Committee – Jawaharlal Nehru
  - **Provincial Constitution Committee – Sardar Patel. Hence, pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
  - Drafting Committee – Dr. B.R. Ambedkar
  - Advisory Committee on Fundamental Rights, Minorities and Tribal and Excluded Areas – Sardar Patel
  - Rules of Procedure Committee – Dr. Rajendra Prasad
  - **States Committee (Committee for Negotiating with States) – Jawaharlal Nehru. Hence, pair 3 is correctly matched.**
  - Steering Committee – Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- **Minor Committees**
  - Finance and Staff Committee – Dr. Rajendra Prasad
  - Credentials Committee – Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar
  - House Committee – B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya

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- Order of Business Committee – Dr. K.M. Munshi
- Ad-hoc Committee on the National Flag – Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- Committee on the Functions of the Constituent Assembly – G. V. Mavalankar
- Ad-hoc Committee on the Supreme Court – S. Varadachari (Not an Assembly Member)
- Committee on Chief Commissioners' Provinces – B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya
- Expert Committee on the Financial Provisions of the Union Constitution –Nalini Ranjan Sarkar (Not an Assembly Member)
- Linguistic Provinces Commission – S.K. Dar (Not an Assembly Member)
- **Special Committee to Examine the Draft Constitution – Jawaharlal Nehru. Hence, pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- Press Gallery Committee – Usha Nath Sen
- Ad-hoc Committee on Citizenship – S. Varadachari

- **Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**

Q 25.C

- **Article 13** declares that all laws that are inconsistent with or in derogation of any of the fundamental rights shall be void. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- The term 'law' in Article 13 has been given a wide connotation so as to include the following:
  - **Permanent laws** enacted by the Parliament or the state legislatures;
  - **Temporary laws** like ordinances issued by the president of the state governors;
  - **Statutory instruments in the nature of delegated legislation** (executive legislation) like order, bye-law, rule, regulation, or notification;
  - **Non-legislative sources of law**, that is, custom or usage having the force of law. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**

Q 26.C

- The Constitution does not contain any classification of Directive Principles. However, on the basis of their content and direction, they can be classified into three broad categories, that is socialistic, Gandhian and liberal-intellectual.
- Few liberal intellectual principles that represent the ideology of the liberalism are as follows:
  - **Article 45** require the state to provide **early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
  - **Article 50** requires the state to separate the **judiciary from the executive** in the public services of the State. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
  - **Article 51** requires the state to promote international peace and security and maintain just and honourable relations between nations; to foster respect for international law and treaty obligations, and to **encourage settlement of international disputes by arbitration. Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 27.B

- **Co-operative Societies:** The 97th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2011 gave constitutional status and protection to cooperative societies. In this context, it made the following three changes in the Constitution:
  - It made the right to form cooperative societies a fundamental right (Article 19).
  - It included a new Directive Principle of State Policy on the promotion of cooperative societies (Article 43-B).
  - It added a new Part IX-B in the Constitution which is entitled as "The Cooperative Societies" (Articles 243-ZH to 243-ZT).
  - The new Part IX-B contains various provisions to ensure that the cooperative societies in the country function in a democratic, professional, autonomous and economically sound manner.
  - It empowers the Parliament in respect of multi-state cooperative societies and the state legislatures in respect of other cooperative societies to make the appropriate law.
- Some of the provisions of the 97th Constitutional Amendment Act are listed below:
  - **Article 243ZJ**
    - The board shall consist of a such number of directors as may be provided by the Legislature of a State, by law.
    - The **maximum number of directors** of a co-operative society shall not exceed twenty-one. **Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
    - The legislature of a State shall, by law, provide for the reservation of one seat for the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes and **two seats for women** on board of every co-operative society. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

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    - The term of office of elected members of the board and its office bearers shall be five years from the date of the election.
  - **Article 243ZK**
    - The superintendence, direction and control of the preparation of electoral rolls for, and the **conduct of, all elections** to a co-operative society shall vest in such an authority or **body, as may be provided by the Legislature of a State**, by law. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**

Q 28.D

- A democratic polity can be classified into two categories—monarchy and republic. In a monarchy, the head of the state (usually king or queen) enjoys a hereditary position, that is, he comes into office through succession, eg, Britain. In a republic, on the other hand, the head of the state is always elected directly or indirectly for a fixed period, eg, USA.
- Therefore, **the term 'republic' in our Preamble indicates that India has an elected head called the president.** He is elected indirectly for a fixed period of five years. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- A republic also means two more things: one, vesting of political sovereignty in the people and not in a single individual like a king; **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- second, the absence of any privileged class and hence all public offices being opened to every citizen without any discrimination. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 29.D

- **17+1 initiative:** The 17+1 initiative is **a China-led format** founded in 2012 in Budapest with an aim to expand cooperation between Beijing and the Central and Eastern European (CEE) member countries, with investments and trade for the development of the CEE region. **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**
  - **Member Countries:** The initiative includes **twelve EU member states and five Balkan states** — Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Macedonia, Montenegro, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, and Slovenia.
  - **Aim:** The framework focuses on infrastructure projects such as bridges, motorways, railway lines, and the modernization of ports in the member states. The **platform is largely seen as an extension of China's flagship Belt and Road initiative (BRI).**

Q 30.A

- The Fundamental Rights are enshrined in **Part III** of the Constitution from **Articles 12 to 35.**
- In this regard, the framers of the Constitution derived inspiration from the **Constitution of the USA (i.e., Bill of Rights). Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- It contains a very long and comprehensive list of 'justiciable' Fundamental Rights. **All the Fundamental Rights are justiciable in nature. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- They prevent the establishment of an authoritarian and despotic rule in the country and protect the liberties and freedoms of the people against the invasion by the State.
- They operate as limitations on the tyranny of the executive and arbitrary laws of the legislature.
- **All of them are available against the arbitrary action of the state.** However, some of them are also available against the action of private individuals. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 31.D

- **Blue Nature Alliance:** It is a global partnership of **five core partners and few other Non-Profit Organisations**. The core partners are Conservation International, The Global Environment Facility, the Pew Charitable Trusts, Minderoo Foundation, and Rob and Melani Walton Foundation.
  - The alliance aims to **protect 5% of the world ocean in five years.**
  - The **alliance aims to target seven ocean locations**. They are Antarctica Seychelles Canada Palau Western Indian Ocean Fiji Tristan da Cunha, an island in the South Atlantic Ocean. **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 32.C

- The issue related to the ceding of Indian territory to a foreign country was examined by Supreme Court in 1960 on a reference made by the President in 1960.
- It was examined whether the power of Parliament to diminish the areas of a state (under Article 3) also includes also the power to cede Indian territory.
- The Supreme Court held that the power of Parliament to diminish the area of a state (under Article 3) does not cover cession of Indian territory to a foreign country. Hence, **Indian territory can be ceded to a foreign state only by amending the Constitution** under Article 368. **Hence option 1 is correct.**

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- On the other hand, the Supreme Court in 1969 ruled that, **settlement of a boundary dispute between India and another country does not require a constitutional amendment.** It can be done by executive action as it does not involve cession of Indian territory to a foreign country. **Hence, option 2 is not correct.**
- Article 3 authorizes the Parliament to diminish the area of any state among others with a simple majority.
    - The Constitution (Article 4) declares that laws made for admission or establishment of new states (under Article 2) and formation of new states and **alteration of areas, boundaries or names of existing states (under Articles 3)** will amount to amendment of constitution but not under Article 368. This means that such laws can be passed by a simple majority and by the ordinary legislative process. **Hence option 3 is correct.**

Q 33.D

- Article 368 in Part XX of the Constitution deals with the powers of Parliament to amend the Constitution and its procedure including any amendment to the federal features.
- An amendment of the Constitution can be initiated only by the introduction of a bill for the purpose in either House of Parliament and not in the state legislatures.
- The bill can be introduced either by a minister or by a private member and does not require prior permission of the president. **Hence, statement 1 is correct.**
- The president must give his assent to the bill. He can neither withhold his assent to the bill nor return the bill for reconsideration of the Parliament. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
- If the bill seeks to amend the federal provisions of the Constitution, it must also be ratified by the legislatures of half of the states by a simple majority, that is, a majority of the members of the House present and voting. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 34.D

- **Mayflower 400:** Mayflower 400 is **an unmanned and completely autonomous ship. It is powered by Artificial Intelligence** and the **Sun's energy** via solar panels. **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**
    - The main aim of this ship is **to study marine pollution and analyze plastics in the water.** It will also track the aquatic animals. The ship is ready to sail on a transatlantic voyage.
    - The Mayflower Autonomous Ship (MAS) is a grassroots initiative led **by marine research non-profit ProMare with support from IBM** and a global consortium of partners. Working in tandem with oceanographers and other vessels, MAS provides a flexible, cost-effective, and safe option for gathering critical data about the ocean. It can spend long durations at sea, carrying scientific equipment and making its own decisions about how to optimize its route and mission.
    - Various nations such as India, the United States, and Switzerland have contributed a variety of technology to the project.

Q 35.A

- **Article 2**
- It empowers the Parliament to 'admit into the Union of India, or establish, new states on such terms and conditions as it thinks fit'.
- Thus, Article 2 grants two powers to the Parliament:
    - the power to **admit into the Union of India new states. Hence option 1 is correct.**
        - ✓ It refers to the admission of states which are already in existence
    - the power to **establish new states. Hence option 2 is correct.**
        - ✓ It refers to the establishment of states which were not in existence before.
- Notably, Article 2 relates to the admission or establishment of new states that are not part of the Union of India.
- **Article 3**
- It relates to the formation of or changes in the existing states of the Union of India.
- In other words, Article 3 deals with the internal re-adjustment inter se of the territories of the constituent states of the Union of India. It authorises the Parliament to:
    - form a new state by separation of territory from any state or by uniting two or more states or parts of states or by uniting any territory to a part of any state,
    - increase the area of any state,
    - diminish the area of any state,
    - **alter the boundaries** of any state, and. **Hence, option 3 is not correct.**
    - alter the name of any state.

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Q 36.A

- **India Hydrogen Alliance (IH2A):** It is an **industry-led coalition** that works together with policymakers, industry players, energy-sector experts, research agencies, think tanks, and the media, to support concerted public policy and private sector actions to developing the hydrogen economy and a domestic hydrogen supply chain in India. The initiative to form the alliance was begun by the **Reliance industries and Chart Industries**. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
  - The India H2 Alliance, IH2A **mainly focuses on commercializing hydrogen technologies. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - IH2A is committed to the creation of a national 'Bharat H2' roadmap and implementation plan, aligning it to the national renewable and electric vehicles plans to meet India's energy transition and net-zero carbon pathway.
  - The IH2 alliance will mainly focus on industrial clusters such as refineries, steel, cement, fertilizer, ports and logistics, and heavy-duty transport use cases. It will also create standards for the storage and transport of hydrogen in pressurized and liquefied forms. The following are the main objectives of IH2A:
    - ✓ To build a hydrogen economy and supply chain in India
    - ✓ To help develop blue and green hydrogen production and storage
    - ✓ To build hydrogen-use industrial clusters
    - ✓ To increase hydrogen-powered fuel cells-based transport

Q 37.D

- **Tapovan Vishnugad hydropower Project (Uttarakhand):** The Tapovan Vishnugad power plant is a run-of-river project being constructed on the Dhauliganga River in Chamoli District of **Uttarakhand. Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
  - **Dhauli Ganga river:**
    - ✓ Originating from Vasudhara Tal, perhaps the largest glacial lake in Uttarakhand, the Dhauli Ganga flows in a meandering course, which takes it **through the Nanda Devi National Park.**
    - ✓ Dhauli Ganga, which merges with Alaknanda, is one of the several tributaries of the Ganga, as the holy river flows down from the Himalayas and snakes its way through the plains. The river takes a V turn and continues to flow in the opposite direction, toward the north, as Dhauli Ganga until it is joined by the Alaknanda river at Vishnuprayag near Joshimath.
    - ✓ There it loses its identity and Alaknanda flows southwest- until it meets the Mandakini river, coming from the north at Rudraprayag. After subsuming Mandakini, the Alaknanda carries on past Srinagar, before joining the Ganges at Devprayag near Kedarnath.
    - ✓ **Around 178 people were reported missing at state-run NTPC Ltd's Tapovan Vishnugad hydropower project site, after a glacier above the Rishiganga river in Uttarakhand burst.**
- **Arjun Sahayak Pariyojna (Uttar Pradesh):** Arjun Sahayak Pariyojna envisages the use of surplus water of river Dhasan during monsoon to fill the existing Arjun, Chandrawal, and Kabrai Dam, through feeder channels from Lahchura Dam. **Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
  - **Dhasan River:**
    - ✓ It is a **right-bank tributary of the Betwa River.** The river originates in the Raisen district in Madhya Pradesh state in central India. The river forms the southeastern boundary of the Lalitpur District of Uttar Pradesh state.
    - ✓ During his visit to Bundelkhand, the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh recently said that the project on the river Dhasan will provide **irrigation facilities to villages of Mahoba, Banda, and Hamirpur.**
- **Dagmara hydroelectric project (Bihar):** A proposal for the construction of a second barrage at Dagmara downstream of the existing Bhimanagar barrage on Kosi River has been conceived for a long to arrest the lateral shifting tendency of Kosi River as well as power generation. The proposed project is located on Kosi River in district Supaul of Bihar. **Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched.**
  - **Kosi river:**
    - ✓ It is a major tributary of the Ganges. One major tributary of the Kosi is the Arun, much of whose course is in Tibet. Kosi River is also known as Saptakoshi for its seven upper tributaries. Some of its tributaries are Tamur Kosi originating from the Kanchenjunga area in the east, Arun River, and Sun Kosi from Tibet.
    - ✓ The Saptakoshi crosses into northern Bihar where it branches into distributaries before joining the Ganges near Kursela in Katihar district.
    - ✓ The river basin is surrounded by ridges that separate it from the Yarlung Tsangpo River in the north, the Gandaki in the west, and the Mahananda in the east. **Kamala, Bagmati (Kareh), and**

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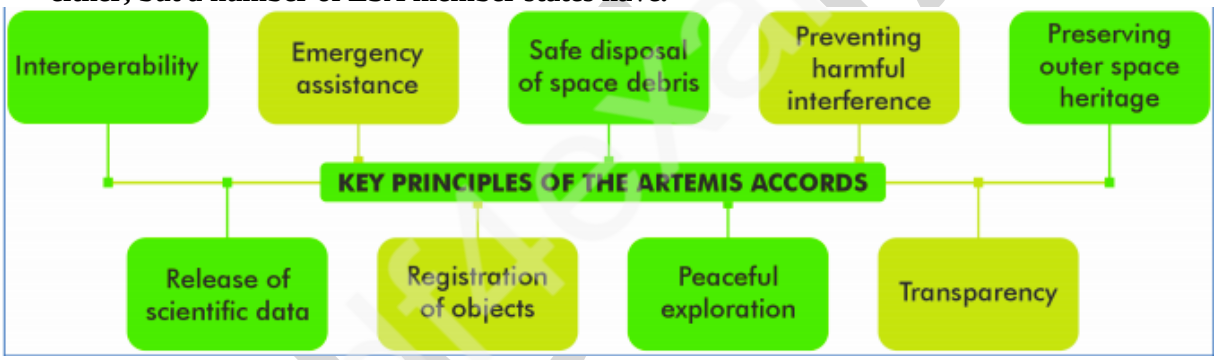
Budhi Gandak are major tributaries of Kosi in India, besides minor tributaries such as Bhutahi Balan.

- ✓ The National Hydel Power Corporation **(NHPC)** will establish the Dagmara multipurpose hydel power plant across the Kosi river in the **Supaul district of Bihar.**

Q 38.B

- **Recent Context:** Recently, New Zealand became the 11th Country to sign the Artemis accords.
- **The Artemis Programme:**
  - **It is the latest endeavor in boosting human space exploration by NASA. Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**
  - **The mission will see the arrival of the first woman and next man to the surface of the Moon in 2024.**
- **About the Artemis Accords**
  - It was announced by NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration), the U.S. civil space agency, in 2020.
  - It is a set of guidelines surrounding the Artemis Program for crewed exploration of the Moon. This agreement is for lunar exploration and beyond, with participation of both international partners and commercial players.
  - The accords describe a shared vision for principles, grounded in the Outer Space Treaty of 1967 to create a safe and transparent environment.
  - **Signatories:** US, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, the Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom, the United Arab Emirates, and Ukraine.
  - **Major space players like India, Russia, China, France and Germany are not a signatory of the accord. The European Space Agency (ESA) as an organisation has not signed on to the accords either, but a number of ESA member states have.**



Q 39.C

- The integration of princely states with the rest of India has purely an ad hoc arrangement. There has been a demand from different regions, particularly South India, for reorganisation of states on linguistic basis.
- Accordingly, in June 1948, the Government of India appointed the Linguistic Provinces Commission under the chairmanship of S K Dhar to examine the feasibility of this. The commission submitted its report in December 1948 and recommended the reorganisation of states on the basis of administrative convenience rather than linguistic factor. **Hence, option 1 is not correct.**
- This created much resentment and led to the appointment of another Linguistic Provinces Committee by the Congress in December 1948 itself to examine the whole question afresh. It consisted of Jawaharlal Nehru, Vallabhbhai Patel and Pattabhi Sitaramayya and hence, was popularly known as JVP Committee. It submitted its report in April 1949 and formally rejected language as the basis for reorganisation of states. **Hence, option 2 is not correct.**
- The creation of Andhra state intensified the demand from other regions for creation of states on linguistic basis. This forced the Government of India to appoint (in December 1953) a three-member States Reorganisation Commission under the chairmanship of Fazl Ali to re-examine the whole question. Its other two members were K M Panikkar and H N Kunzru. It submitted its report in September 1955 and broadly **accepted language as the basis of reorganisation of states**. But, it rejected the theory of 'one language–one state'. Its view was that the unity of India should be regarded as the primary consideration in any redrawing of the country's political units. **Hence option 3 is correct.**

Q 40.A

- **Article 19(1)(c)** gives the Fundamental Right to form associations or unions or co-operative Societies. The word, 'co-operative societies' was added by the **97th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2011**. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

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- The Directive Principles of State Policy, under **Article 43-B,** mention that the State shall endeavor to promote **voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control, and professional management** of cooperative societies. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 41.A

- **'Dindori Project':**
  - **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)** has supported an initiative **to revive Kodo millet and kutki (little millet) cultivation in the Dindori district of Madhya Pradesh.**
  - The IFAD project was started in 2013-14, with women farmers from 40 villages - mostly from the Gonda and Baiga tribes - growing these two minor millets. The IFAD project has helped in meeting nutritional goals and reviving millet cultivation.
- **Millets:**
  - Millets score over rice and wheat, whether in terms of vitamins, minerals and crude fibre content or amino acid profile. They are also **hardier and drought-resistant** crops. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - They **have short growing season** (70-100 days, as against 120-150 days for paddy/wheat) and lower water requirement (350-500 mm versus 600-1,200 mm). **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
  - Yet, these high-nutrient cereals – bajra (pearl millet), jowar (sorghum), ragi (finger millet), kodo (kodo millet), kutki (little millet), kakun (foxtail millet), sanwa (barnyard millet), cheena (proso millet), kuttu (buckwheat) and chaulai (amaranth) – aren't the first choice of either consumers or farmers.
  - For starters, kneading dough and rolling Rotis is much easier with wheat than with millet flour. Even the branded "multi-grain" or "navratna" atta that leading FMCG companies are retailing contain anywhere from 60.6% to 90.9% whole wheat. The reason for this is: Wheat has gluten proteins that swell and form networks on adding water to the flour, making the dough more cohesive and elastic. The resultant chapattis come out soft, which isn't possible with millets that are gluten-free.
  - In 2018, the Union Agriculture Ministry declared millets as "Nutri-Cereals", considering their "high nutritive value" and also "anti-diabetic properties". 2018 was observed as the 'National Year of Millets". The UN General Assembly too adopted an India-sponsored resolution to mark **2023 as the "International Year of Millets"**. Yet, these high-nutrient cereals (fine grains) aren't the first choice of either consumers or farmers.

Q 42.C

- After the large-scale reorganization of the states in 1956, the political map of India underwent a continuous change due to the pressure of popular agitations and political conditions. The demand for the creation of some more states on the basis of language or cultural homogeneity resulted in the bifurcation of existing states.
- **Maharashtra and Gujarat** In 1960, the bilingual state of Bombay were divided into two separate states—Maharashtra for Marathi-speaking people and Gujarat for Gujarati-speaking people. Gujarat was established as the 15th state of the Indian Union.
- **Dadra and Nagar Haveli** The Portuguese ruled this territory until its liberation in 1954. Subsequently, the administration was carried on till 1961 by an administrator chosen by the people themselves. It was converted into a union territory of India by the 10th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1961.
- **Goa, Daman, and Diu** India acquired these three territories from the Portuguese by means of police action in 1961. They were constituted as a union territory by the 12th Constitutional Amendment Act, 1962.
- **Puducherry** The territory of Puducherry comprises the former French establishments in India known as Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe, and Yanam. The French handed over this territory to India in 1954. Subsequently, it was administered as an 'acquired territory', till 1962 when it was made a union territory by the 14th Constitutional Amendment Act.
- **Nagaland** In 1963, the State of Nagaland was formed by taking the Naga Hills and Tuensang area out of the state of Assam. This was done to satisfy the movement of the hostile Nagas. However, before giving Nagaland the status of the 16th state of the Indian Union, it was placed under the control of the governor of Assam in 1961.
- **Haryana**, Chandigarh, and Himachal Pradesh In 1966, the State of Punjab was bifurcated to create Haryana, the 17th state of the Indian Union, and the union territory of Chandigarh. On the recommendation of the Shah Commission (1966), the Punjabi-speaking areas were constituted into the unilingual state of Punjab, the Hindi-speaking areas were constituted into the State of Haryana and the hill areas were merged with the adjoining union territory of Himachal Pradesh. In 1971, the union territory of Himachal Pradesh was elevated to the status of a state (18th state of the Indian Union).

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- **Manipur, Tripura, and Meghalaya** In 1972, the political map of Northeast India underwent a major change. Thus, the two Union Territories of Manipur and Tripura and the Sub-State of Meghalaya got statehood and the two union territories of Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh (originally known as North-East Frontier Agency—NEFA) came into being.
- **Sikkim** The 36th Constitutional Amendment Act (1975) was enacted to make Sikkim a full-fledged state of the Indian Union (the 22nd state). This amendment amended the First and the Fourth Schedules to the Constitution and added a new Article 371-F to provide for certain special provisions with respect to the administration of Sikkim.
- **Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, and Goa** In 1987, three new States of Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, and Goa came into being as the 23rd, 24th, and 25th states of the Indian Union respectively. The Union Territory of Mizoram has conferred the status of a full state as a sequel to the signing of a memorandum of settlement (Mizoram Peace Accord) in 1986 between the Central government and the Mizo National Front, ending the two-decade-old insurgency. Arunachal Pradesh had also been a union territory from 1972. The State of Goa was created by separating the territory of Goa from the Union Territory of Goa, Daman, and Diu.
- **Chhattisgarh, Uttarakhand, and Jharkhand** In 2000, three more new States of Chhattisgarh,17 Uttarakhand18 and Jharkhand19 were created out of the territories of Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Bihar respectively. These became the 26th, 27th, and 28th states of the Indian Union respectively.
- **Telangana** In 2014, the new state of Telangana came into existence as the 29th state of the Indian Union. It was carved out of the territories of Andhra Pradesh.
- **Hence, 4 - 2 - 1 - 3 is the correct order.**

Q 43.B

- **Recent Context:** India has slipped 28 places to rank 140th among 156 countries in the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report 2021, becoming the third-worst performer in South Asia, trailing behind neighbours Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Myanmar. According to the report, India has closed 62.5% of its gender gap till date. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
  - While India has declined on the political empowerment index, it has still performed relatively well compared to other countries, ranking at 51 in women's participation in politics. But the two indices where India has fared the worst are "Health and Survival", which includes the sex ratio, and economic participation of women.
  - **The Global Gender Gap Report was first published in 2006 by the World Economic Forum**. The 2021 report covers 153 countries. The Global Gender Gap Index is an index designed to measure gender equality. **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - The Global Gender Gap Index benchmarks the evolution of gender-based gaps among four key dimensions (Economic Participation and Opportunity, Educational Attainment, Health and Survival, and Political Empowerment) and tracks progress towards closing these gaps over time.

Q 44.A

- **Constitutionalism is a concept which means that Government derives its authority from a fundamental body of law and is legally limited in its powers by the same.** It does not have any relation to the written or unwritten constitution or the political system of a country. **Hence statement 1 is correct and statement 2 is not correct.**
- Constitutionalism means limited government or limitation on government. Constitutionalism recognizes the need for a government with powers but at the same time insists that limitations be placed on those powers.
- The antithesis of constitutionalism is despotism and arbitrary powers. A government that goes beyond its limits loses its authority and legitimacy. Therefore, to preserve the basic freedoms of the individual, and to maintain his dignity and personality, the Constitution should be permeated with Constitutionalism'; it should have some inbuilt restrictions on the powers conferred by it on governmental organs.
- **In IR Coehlo v. State of Tamil Nadu, the Supreme Court held that the principle of constitutionalism is now a legal principle that ensures the democratic principles do not get destroyed by the government and thus constitutionalism shall not be destroyed**.

Q 45.A

- The **term "secular" was added by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act of 1976. However as the Supreme Court said in 1974, although the word "secular" was not expressly mentioned in the constitution**, there can be no doubt that Constitution makers wanted to establish such a state, and accordingly Articles 25 to 28 have been included in the Constitution. **Hence statement 1 is correct**

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- The Indian Constitution embodies the positive concept of Secularism that is all religions in our country have the same status and support from the state. It **does not provide for an absolute separation of state and religion** but is rather based on the concept of "Watchful ambivalence". **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**

Q 46.B

- Originally, the citizenship Act of 1955 provided for Commonwealth Citizenship which means that every person who is a citizen of a Commonwealth country specified in the First Schedule shall, by virtue of that citizenship, have the status of a Commonwealth citizen in India. But this **provision was repealed by the Citizenship (Amendment) Act of 2003. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019 (CAA) is an act that was passed in December 2019. The act allows Indian citizenship for Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan **before December 2014** fearing religious persecution. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- The act creates an exception for **Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis, and Christians from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan,** with regard to **the naturalization qualification. For these groups of persons, the 11 years' requirement will be reduced to five years.**

Q 47.C

- **Justice Verma Committee was constituted in 1998 "to work out a strategy as well as the methodology of operationalizing a countrywide program for teaching fundamental Duties in every educational institution as a measure of in-service training".**
- The Committee was conscious of the fact that any non-operationalization of Fundamental Duties might not necessarily be the lack of concern or non-availability of legal and other enforceable provisions, but it was more a case of lacuna in the strategy of implementation. It, therefore, thought it appropriate to list in brief some of the legal provisions already available in regard to enforcement of Fundamental Duties. A summary o**f such legal provisions is given below:**
- In order to ensure that no disrespect is shown to the National Flag, Constitution of India, and the National anthem, the **Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971** was enacted. **Hence option 2 is correct**
- Sections 123(3) and 123(3A) of the **Representation of People Act, 1951** declares that soliciting of the vote on the ground of religion and the promotion or attempt to promote feelings of enmity or hatred between different classes of citizens of India on the grounds of religion, race, caste, community or language is a corrupt practice. A person indulging in a corrupt practice can be disqualified for being a Member of Parliament or a State Legislature under Section 8A of the Representation of People Act, 1951. **Hence option 3 is correct**
- **The Wildlife (Protection) Act of 1972** prohibits trade in rare and endangered species. **Hence option 1 is correct.**
- The Forest (Conservation) Act of 1980 checks indiscriminate deforestation and diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes.

Q 48.D

- **Recent Context:** US Navy under its freedom of navigation operation (FONOP) entered India's exclusive economic zone (EEZ), near Lakshadweep, without requesting India's prior consent.
  - FONOP is a US Department of Defense program that involves passages conducted by the US Navy through waters which they claimed are not the exclusive territory of coastal nations.
  - **India opposed this move as it violated United Nations Convention on Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), 1982 does not authorize other states to carry out military exercises or manoeuvres in the EEZ and on the continental shelf without the consent of the coastal state.**
- **The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) is an international treaty which was adopted and signed in 1982.**
  - It replaced the four Geneva Conventions of April, 1958, which respectively concerned the territorial sea and the contiguous zone, the continental shelf, the high seas, fishing and conservation of living resources on the high seas.
  - The Convention came into effect in November, 1994. It **now has 168 Parties including the European Union** for its share of jurisdictions.
  - **All the members of the UN are not parties to the Convention. For example USA is the most important non-subscriber to the UNCLOS,** solely due to its strong opposition to the regime concerning exploitation of natural resources on the seabed beyond national jurisdictions. **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

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- **India, China and Brazil have ratified UNCLOS.**
- **The Convention has created three new institutions on the international scene :**
  - ✓ **The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea**
  - ✓ **The International Seabed Authority**
  - ✓ **The Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf**

Q 49.C

- **Dard Aryans tribes: Some 200 km from Leh** are the villages of Dha, Hanu, Garkone, and Darchik on both sides of the Indus River, inhabited by the **Buddhist Dard Tribes**. The villages are together called the "Aryan valley". **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**
- The word 'Dard' is derived from a Sanskrit word, 'Daradas', which means people who live on hillsides,". People of this region are culturally and linguistically different from those in other parts of Ladakh.
- **The government has started an initiative to preserve the Arayan Culture. With an aim to promote tourism in the valley, the Tourism Department has started Arayan Festival for two years.** The Academy of Arts, Culture, and Languages organizing workshops on folks' songs and dance among the children.

Q 50.D

- The Constitution (Forty-fourth Amendment) Act, 1978, was enacted by the Janata Party. It largely tried to undo several changes that had been made to the Constitution by the 42nd Amendment which was enacted during the Emergency.
- Some of the notable provisions were:
- **The right to property**
  - It was deleted from the list of Fundamental Rights by the 44th Amendment Act, 1978. It is made a legal right under Article 300-A in Part XII of the Constitution.
  - Though the Fundamental Right to Property under Part III has been abolished, the Part III still carries two provisions which provide for the guaranteed right to compensation in case of acquisition or requisition of the private property by the state. These two cases where compensation has to be paid are:
    - ✓ When the State acquires the property of a minority educational institution (Article 30). It was added by the 44th Amendment Act. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
    - ✓ When the State acquires the land held by a person under his personal cultivation and the land is within the statutory ceiling limits (Article 31A). It was added by the 17th Amendment Act (1964).
- **Grounds for National Emergency**
  - Originally, the Constitution mentioned 'internal disturbance' as one of the grounds for the proclamation of a National Emergency, but the expression was too vague and had a wider connotation.
  - The 44th Amendment Act of 1978 substituted the words 'armed rebellion' for 'internal disturbance'.
- **Judicial Review of Emergency**
  - The 38th Amendment Act of 1975 made the declaration of a National Emergency immune from judicial review.
  - But, this provision was subsequently deleted by the 44th Amendment Act of 1978. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**
  - Further, in the Minerva Mills case, (1980), the Supreme Court held that the proclamation of a national emergency can be challenged in a court on the ground of malafide or that the declaration was based on wholly extraneous and irrelevant facts or is absurd or perverse.
- **Directive Principle**
  - It added one more directive which requires the State to minimize inequalities in income, status, facilities and opportunities (Article 38). **Hence statement 1 is correct.**

Q 51.D

- While **Article 15** provides that the State shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of **religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth, Article 16** states that no citizen can be discriminated against or be ineligible for any employment or office under the State on grounds of only **religion, race, caste, sex, descent, place of birth or residence**. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Article 15** states that nothing in this Article shall prevent the **state from making any special provision for women and children.**
- It is one of the four exceptions to the general rule of non discrimination under Article 15 and not Article 16. **Hence Statement 2 is not correct.**

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Q 52.A

- A person to be appointed as a **judge of a high court** should have the following qualifications:
  - He should be a citizen of India.
  - He should have held a judicial office in the territory of India for ten years; or
  - He should have been an advocate of a high court (or high courts in succession) for ten years.
- From the above, it is clear that the Constitution has not prescribed a minimum age for appointment as a judge of a high court. Moreover, unlike in the case of the Supreme Court, the Constitution **makes no provision for appointment of a distinguished jurist as a judge of a high court. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- A person appointed as a judge of a high court, before entering upon his office, has to make and **subscribe an oath** or affirmation before the **governor of the state** or some person appointed by him for this purpose. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- The **salaries**, allowances, privileges, leave and pension of the **judges of a high court are determined** from time to time by the **Parliament**. They cannot be varied to their disadvantage after their appointment except during a financial emergency. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 53.B

- **Lok Adalat** is one of the alternative dispute redressal mechanisms. It is a forum where disputes/cases **pending in the court of law or at the pre-litigation stage** are settled/ compromised amicably. Lok Adalats have been given statutory status under the **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.** Under the said Act, the award (decision) made by the Lok Adalats is deemed to be a **decree of a civil court and is final and binding on all parties** and no appeal against such an award lies before any court of law.
- There is **no court fee payable** when a matter is filed in a Lok Adalat. If a matter pending in the court of law is referred to the Lok Adalat and is settled subsequently, the court fee originally paid in the court on the complaints/petition is also refunded back to the parties.
- As per section 18(1) of the Act, a Lok Adalat shall have jurisdiction to determine and to arrive at a compromise or settlement between the parties to a dispute in respect of -
  - **Any case pending before;** or
  - Any matter which is falling within the jurisdiction of, and is not brought before, any court for which the Lok Adalat is organized.
- Provided that the Lok Adalat shall have **no jurisdiction in respect of matters relating to divorce or matters relating to an offence not compoundable under any law.**
- The various matters such as Matrimonial/Family Disputes, Criminal (Compoundable Offences) cases, **Land Acquisition cases, Labour disputes,** Workmen's compensation cases, **Bank Recovery cases,** Pension cases, Housing Board and Slum Clearance cases, Housing Finance cases, Consumer Grievance cases, Electricity matters, Disputes relating to Telephone Bills, Municipal matters including House Tax cases, Disputes with Cellular Companies etc. are being taken up in the Lok Adalats.
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 54.B

- In 1950, the Constitution contained a four-fold classification of the state of the Indian Union—Part A, Part B, Part C and Part D State. In all, they numbered 29.
- Part-A states comprised nine erstwhile governor's provinces of British India.
- Part-B states consisted of nine erstwhile princely states with legislatures.
- Part-C states consisted of erstwhile chief commissioner's provinces of British India and some of the erstwhile princely states. These Part-C states (in all 10 in number) were centrally administered.
- The Andaman and Nicobar Islands were kept as the solitary Part-D state.

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States in Part-A	*States in Part-B*	*States in Part-C*	*States in Part-D*
1. Assam	1. Hyderabad	1. Ajmer	1. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
2. Bihar	2. Jammu and Kashmir	2. Bhopal	
3. Bombay	3. Madhya Bharat	3. Bilaspur	
4. Madhya Pradesh	4. Mysore	4. Cooch-Behar	
5. Madras	5. Patiala and East Punjab	5. Coorg	
6. Orissa	6. Rajasthan	6. Delhi	
7. Punjab	7. Saurashtra	7. Himachal Pradesh	
8. United Provinces	8. Travancore-Cochin	8. Kutch	
9. West Bengal	9. Vindhya Pradesh	9. Manipur	
		10. Tripura	

- **Hence, pairs 2 and 4 are correctly matched.**

Q 55.D

- **Article 12** has defined the term, state for the purposes of Part III.
- According to it, the State includes the following:
  - **Government and Parliament of India**, that is, executive and legislative organs of the Union government.
  - **Government and legislature of states**, that is, executive and legislative organs of state government.
  - All local authorities, that is, **municipalities, panchayats, district boards, improvement trusts**, etc.
  - All other authorities, that is, **statutory or non-statutory authorities** like LIC, ONGC, SAIL, etc.
  - According to the Supreme Court, **even a private body or an agency working as an instrument of the State** falls within the meaning of the 'State' under Article 12. **Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 56.B

- Fundamental Duties have been provided under Article 51A of the Indian Constitution. They were added to the constitution by the 42nd Amendment in 1976. There are currently 11 Fundamental Duties. They are:
- It shall be the duty of every citizen of India
- To abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem;
- To cherish and follow the noble ideals which inspired our national struggle for freedom;
- To uphold and protect the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India;
- To defend the country and render national service when called upon to do so;
- To promote harmony and the spirit of common brotherhood amongst all the people of India transcending religious, linguistic, and regional or sectional diversities; to renounce practices derogatory to the dignity of women;
- To **value and preserve the rich heritage of our composite culture; Hence option 4 is correct.**
- To protect and improve the natural environment including forests, lakes, rivers, and wildlife, and **to have compassion for living creatures; Hence option 2 is correct.**
- To develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform;
- To safeguard public property and to abjure violence;
- To strive towards excellence in all spheres of individual and collective activity so that the nation constantly rises to higher levels of endeavour and achievement;
- Parent or guardian to provide opportunities **for education to his child or ward between the age of six and fourteen years. Hence option 3 is not correct.**
- **To promote voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control, and professional management of cooperative societies is mentioned in Article 43 B of the Indian Constitution and is**

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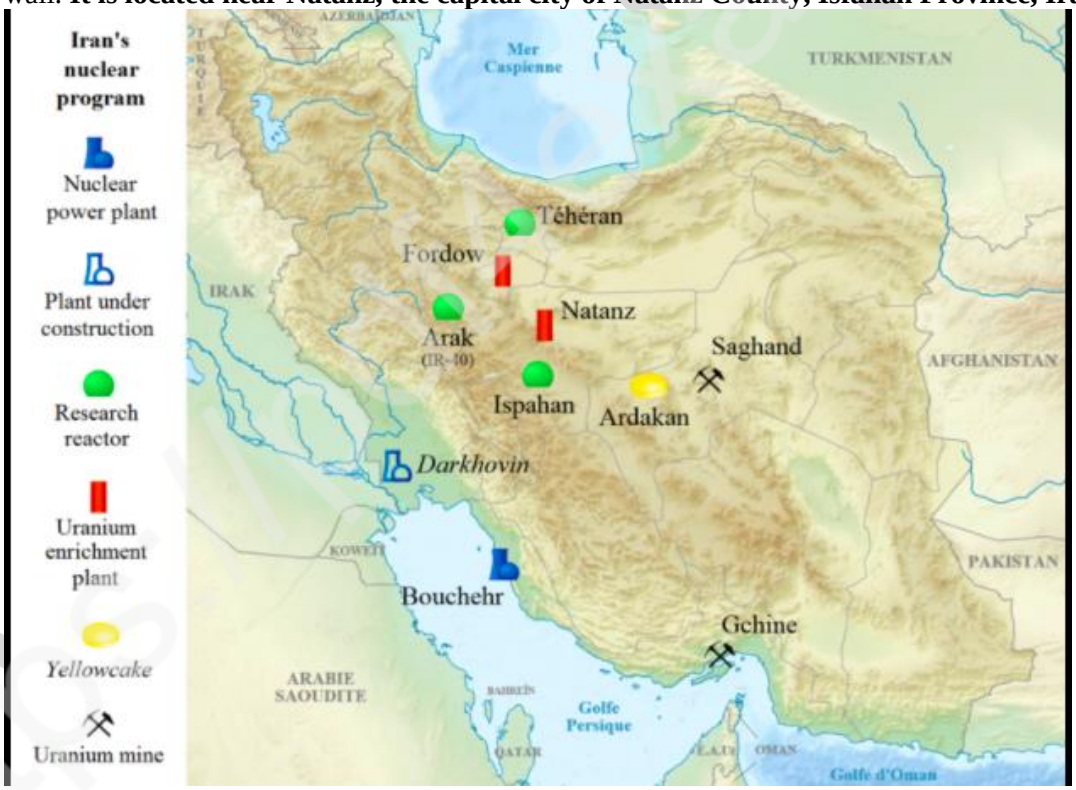
part of the Directive Principles of State Policy as amended by the 97th Constitutional Amendment Act of 2011. Hence option 1 is not correct.

Q 57.C

- The Constitution of India provides for a federal system of government in the country. The framers realised that the federal system not only ensures the efficient governance of the country but also reconciles national unity with regional autonomy.
- **The Indian federal system is based on the 'Canadian model' and not on the 'American model'.** The 'Canadian model' differs fundamentally from the 'American model' in so far as it establishes a very strong centre. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- However, the term 'federation' has nowhere been used in the Constitution. Instead, Article 1 of the Constitution describes India as a 'Union of States'. According to Dr B R Ambedkar, the phrase 'Union of States' has been preferred to 'Federation of States' to indicate two things:
  - **the Indian federation is not the result of an agreement among the states like the American federation. Hence, statement 2 is not correct.**
  - **the states have no right to secede from the federation.** The federation is a union because it is indestructible. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 58.D

- **Recent Context:** A power failure that appeared to have been caused by a deliberately planned explosion struck Iran's Natanz uranium enrichment site in April, in what Iranian officials called an act of sabotage that they suggested had been carried out by Israel.
- **Natanz is a hardened Fuel Enrichment Plant (FEP)** covering 100,000 square meters that is built 8 meters underground and protected by a concrete wall 2.5 meters thick, itself protected by another concrete wall. **It is located near Natanz, the capital city of Natanz County, Isfahan Province, Iran.**



- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 59.B

- **Article 25** states that all persons are equally entitled to freedom of conscience and the right to freely profess, practice and propagate religion.
- But these rights are not absolute as they are subject to **public order, morality, health and other provisions relating to fundamental rights. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Article 27** lays down that no person shall be compelled to pay any taxes for the promotion or maintenance of any particular religion or religious denomination.
  - In other words, the State should not spend the public money collected by way of tax for the promotion or maintenance of any particular religion.

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- This provision prohibits the State from favouring, patronising and supporting one religion over the other.
- This means that the **taxes can be used for the promotion or maintenance of all religions**. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

- Under **Article 28,** no religious instruction shall be provided in any educational institution wholly maintained out of State funds.
  - Article 28 distinguishes between four types of educational institutions:
  - Institutions wholly maintained by the State. Here, religious instruction is completely prohibited.
  - Institutions administered by the State but established under any endowment or trust. Here, religious instruction is permitted.
  - Institutions recognised by the State. Here, **religious instruction is permitted on a voluntary basis. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
  - Institutions receiving aid from the State. Here, religious instruction is permitted on a voluntary basis.

Q 60.C

- **The Family Courts Act, 1984** was enacted to provide for the establishment of Family Courts with a view to promote conciliation and secure speedy settlement of disputes relating to marriage and family affairs.
- **Salient features of the Act:**
  - It provides for the **establishment** of Family Courts by the **State Governments in consultation with the High Courts.** It makes it **obligatory** for the State Governments to set up a Family Court in **every city** or town with a population **exceeding one million. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - It exclusively provides within the jurisdiction of the Family Courts the matters relating to matrimonial relief, including nullity of marriage, judicial separate divorce, restitution of conjugal rights, etc.
  - It makes it obligatory on the part of the Family Court to endeavor, in the first instance to effect a reconciliation or a settlement between the parties to a family dispute. It **provides for the association of social welfare agencies,** counselors, etc., during the **conciliation stage. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
  - It provides for **only one right of appeal** which shall lie to the **High Court. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 61.A

- In **the Kesavanand Bharti case 1973, the Supreme Court overturned its earlier decision of the Berubari Union case and held that the Preamble is a part of the Constitution and can be amended under Article 368 of the Constitution**. Again, in the LIC of India case, the Supreme Court held that the Preamble is a part of the Constitution.
- To provide opportunities for education to his child or ward between the age of six and fourteen years. **This duty was added by the 86th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2002.**
- The **42nd Amendment Act of 1976** also amended Preamble and changed the description of India from "sovereign democratic republic" to a "sovereign, socialist secular democratic republic", and **also changed the words "unity of the nation" to "unity and integrity of the nation".** It also added the words, Socialist and Secular, to the Preamble of the Constitution.
- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer**

Q 62.D

- In the literal sense, **certiorari means 'to be certified' or 'to be informed'.** It is issued by a higher court to a lower court or tribunal either to transfer a case pending with the latter to itself or to squash the order of the latter in a case.
- Literally, **Prohibition means 'to forbid'.** It is issued by a higher court to a lower court or tribunal to prevent the latter from bodies exceeding its jurisdiction or usurping a jurisdiction that it does not possess.
- The writ of prohibition can be issued only against **judicial and quasi-judicial authorities**. It is not available against administrative authorities, legislative bodies, and private individuals or bodies.
- But the writ of certiorari could be issued only against **judicial and quasi-judicial authorities** and not against administrative authorities. However, in 1991, the Supreme Court ruled that the certiorari can be issued even against **administrative authorities affecting the rights of individuals.** Like prohibition, certiorari is also not available against legislative bodies and private individuals or bodies. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- Unlike prohibition, which is only preventive, **certiorari is both preventive as well as curative**. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
- Only the writ of **Quo-Warranto** can be sought by any interested person and not necessarily by the aggrieved person. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**

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63.A

- **Article 23** prohibits traffic in human beings, begar (forced labor), and other similar forms of forced labour.
- The term **'begar' means compulsory work without remuneration. Hence option 2 is correct.**
- The expression 'traffic in human beings' includes the following:
  - Selling and buying of men, women, and children like goods.
  - Immoral traffic in women and children, including prostitution.
  - Devadasis
  - **Slavery. Hence option 1 is correct.**
- To punish these acts, the Parliament has made the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956.
- **Article 24** prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years in any factory, mine or other hazardous activities like construction work or railway. **Hence option 3 is not correct.**

Q 64.B

- Asymmetric federalism refers to the granting of differential rights to certain federal subunits, often in recognition of their distinctive ethnic identity. This method allows the government to grant special status to some units providing them with special powers not enjoyed by other states. Asymmetry involves providing greater autonomy to some states when compared with others. It permits particular states to have greater executive, legislative, and at times, judicial powers than other states.
- The Indian constitution also adopts this feature in a series of ways to account for the diversity and the historic situations during the integration of Indian state. Some of the major provisions in this regard include -:
- **Schedule IV**
  - Schedule IV of the Indian Constitution deals with the **representation of the states in the Rajya Sabha.** In a symmetric federation, there is an equal representation of all the states in the second chamber. However, in India, Schedule IV doesn't provide for equal representation of states in the Rajya Sabha. For e.g., Uttar Pradesh has been allotted 31 seats in Rajya Sabha, where Uttarakhand has been allotted only 3 seats. **Hence, option 4 is correct.**
- **Schedule VI**
  - One of the major manifestations of asymmetric federalism of the Indian Constitution is found in schedule VI of the Indian constitution. It contains provisions for the creation of autonomous districts and autonomous regions for the administration of tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.
  - **An autonomous district with different Scheduled Tribes will be divided into autonomous regions. These will be administered by District Councils and Regional Councils.** These Councils can make laws with respect to allotment, occupation and use of land, management of forests other than reserve forests and watercourses. Besides they can regulate social customs, marriage and divorce and property issues. **Hence, option 3 is correct.**
- Other manifestations of the asymmetric federalism of the Indian constitution include Article 371 of the Constitution, which includes "special provisions" for 11 states, including six states of the Northeast.
- Schedule VII and Imposition of President's Rule under Article 356 does not grant differential rights to any federal units. Thus, these does not reveal the asymmetric federal character of the Indian State.

Q 65.D

- **The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987** was amended in 2002 to provide for the establishment of the Permanent Lok Adalats to deal with cases pertaining to the public utility services.
- **Salient features:**
  - The Permanent Lok Adalat shall consist of a **Chairman** who is or has been a **district judge** or additional district judge or has held judicial office higher in rank than that of the district judge and **two other persons having adequate experience in public utility services. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - The Permanent Lok Adalat shall exercise jurisdiction in respect of one or more public utility services such as transport services, postal, telegraph or telephone services, supply of power etc.
  - Initially the pecuniary jurisdiction of the Permanent Lok Adalat was up to rupees ten lakhs. However, the act provides that the Central Government may increase the said pecuniary jurisdiction from time to time. Accordingly the **pecuniary jurisdiction of permanent Lok Adalats was increased to one crore. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
  - After an application is made to the Permanent Lok Adalat, no party to that application shall invoke jurisdiction of any court in the same dispute.

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- The Permanent Lok Adalat shall have not jurisdiction in respect of any matter relating to an offence not compoundable under any law.
- **Every award made by the Permanent Lok Adalat shall be final and binding** on all the parties thereto and shall be by a majority of the persons constituting the Permanent Lok Adalat. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 66.A

- The term Justice in the Preamble embraces three distinct forms- Social, economic and political, secured through various provisions of Fundamental Rights and Directive principles. The **idea of justice- social, economic and political- has been taken from Russian Revolution. Hence pair 1 is correctly matched.**
- The preamble secures to all citizens of India liberty of thought, expression, belief, faith, and worship, through the Fundamental Rights, enforceable in the court of law, in case of violation. Liberty as elaborated in the Preamble is very essential for the functioning of the Indian democratic system. However, liberty does not mean a license to do what one likes and has to be enjoyed within the limitations mentioned in the Constitution itself. **The ideas of liberty, equality, and fraternity in our preamble have been taken from the French Revolution. Hence pair 3 is correctly matched.**
- In India, **the concept of single citizenship is adopted from the British constitution that is from the united kingdom. In India, only single citizenship is available to citizens.** One cannot be a citizen of the state as well. This helps in increasing the feeling of nationality and encourages patriotism as it forges unity amidst regional and cultural differences. It also encourages fundamental rights such as the freedom of movement and residence in any part of the nation. **Hence pair 2 is correctly matched**

Q 67.C

- **Recent Context: The World Health Organization (WHO) and Switzerland have launched a BioHub facility that will allow sharing of genetic information on virus/pathogens between laboratories and facilitate "analysis and preparedness" against them. Hence both the statements are correct.**
- **Based in Spiez, Switzerland**, the facility will serve as a center for the safe receipt, sequencing, storage, and preparation of biological materials for distribution to other laboratories, in order to inform risk assessments and sustain global preparedness against these pathogens.
- **About BioHub Facility:**
  - The facility will help in safe reception, sequencing, storage and preparation of biological materials for distribution to other laboratories, so as to facilitate global preparedness against these pathogens.
  - It will enable member states to share biological materials with and via the BioHub under pre-agreed conditions, including biosafety, biosecurity, and other applicable regulations.
  - In parallel, WHO will broaden its BioHub System for the use of biological materials by qualified entities – such as manufacturers – for the development of medical by-products for fair allocation to countries.

Q 68.D

- **Right to Freedom** is covered under **Article 19 to Article 22 of the Indian Constitution.**
- It includes the following rights:
  - Protection of six rights regarding freedom of (i) speech and expression, (ii) assembly, (iii) association, (iv) movement, (v) residence, and (vi) profession (Article 19).
  - **Protection in respect of conviction for offenses (Article 20).**
  - **Protection of life and personal liberty (Article 21).**
  - **Right to elementary education (Article 21A).**
  - Protection against arrest and detention in certain cases (Article 22).
- **Article 24** is related to the Prohibition of the employment of children in factories. It is covered under **Right against exploitation.**
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 69.D

- A foreign national, who was eligible to become a citizen of India on 26.01.1950 or was a citizen of India on or at any time after 26.01.1950 or belonged to a territory that became part of India after 15.08.1947 and his/her children and grandchildren, provided his/her country of citizenship allows dual citizenship in some form or other under the local laws, is eligible for registration as an Overseas Citizen of India (OCI). Minor children of such persons are also eligible for OCI. However, if the applicant had ever been a citizen of Pakistan or Bangladesh, he/she will not be eligible for OCI.

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- A person of foreign origin who is a spouse of a citizen of India/OCI cardholder and whose marriage has been registered and subsisted for a minimum period of two years. **The OCI program is not for individuals who are of Pakistani or Bangladeshi descent**. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- A **person holding more than one nationality can apply for the Overseas Citizen of India Card,** as long as the local laws of at least one of the countries allow dual citizenship in some form or the other. **Hence statement 2 is not correct**

Q 70.B

- Citizenship Act of 1955 deals with the acquisition and termination of citizenship after the commencement of the Constitution. One of its provisions states that a person born in India after 26th January 1950 would be a citizen of India **except those of children of diplomats and enemy aliens who cannot be citizens of India by birth. Hence statement 1 is not correct**
- As per section 5(1)(g) of The Citizenship Act, 1955, **a person registered as an OCI Cardholder for 5 years and who is ordinarily resident in India for twelve months before making an application for registration is eligible for grant of Indian citizenship. Hence statement 3 is correct**
- Indian Citizenship by registration can be acquired (not illegal migrant) by:-
  - Persons of Indian origin who are ordinarily resident in India for SEVEN YEARS before making an application.
  - **Persons of Indian origin who are ordinarily resident in any country or place outside undivided India. Hence statement 2 is correct**
  - Persons who are married to a citizen of India and who are ordinarily resident in India for SEVEN YEARS before making an application under section.
  - Minor children whose both parents are Indian citizens.
  - Persons of full age whose both parents are registered as citizens of India.
  - Persons of full age who or either of the parents was earlier citizen of Independent India and residing in India for ONE YEAR immediately before making an application.

Q 71.B

- **RESPOND PROJECT:** Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Provides financial support under RESPOND Programme for conducting research and development activities related to space science, space technology and space applications in universities and academic institutions in India.
  - The main objective of the RESPOND programme is **to establish strong links with academic institutions** to carry out quality research and developmental projects of relevance to space and derive useful outputs to support ISRO programmes, to enhance academic base, generate human resources and infrastructure at the academic institution to support the space programme.
  - Under the Programme, ISRO provides financial support for conducting research and development activities related to Space Science, Space Technology and Space Applications in Academic Institutions in India.
  - RESPOND is also participating in National Missions like the **IMPRINT** (Impacting Research Innovation and Technology) programme and **Uchhatar Avishkar Yojana (UAY).**
- **Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 72.A

- Article 19 in the Constitution Of India describes the various types of freedoms enjoyed by the citizens of India. All citizens shall have the right:
  - to freedom of speech and expression
  - to assemble peaceably and without arms
  - to form associations or unions
  - to move freely **throughout the territory** of India. **Hence option 1 is correct.**
  - to reside and settle in any part of the territory of India
- Taking a cue from Menaka case, the Supreme Court has declared the **Right to travel abroad as part of Article 21 under the subsequent cases. Hence option 2 is not correct.**
- Freedom of **movement of commodities** and commercial transactions between different parts of the country is sought to be secured by the provisions **(under Arts. 301 to 307)** contained in Part XIII of our Constitution. **Hence option 3 is not correct.**

Q 73.B

- **Supreme Court** is a federal court, the **highest court of appeal**, the **guarantor of the fundamental rights** of the citizens, and guardian of the Constitution. Therefore, its independence becomes very essential for the effective discharge of the duties assigned to it. The Constitution has made the following provisions to safeguard and ensure the independent and impartial functioning of the Supreme Court:

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- **Mode of Appointment:** The judges of the Supreme Court are appointed by the President (which means the cabinet) in consultation with the members of the judiciary itself (ie, judges of the Supreme Court and the high courts).
- **Security of Tenure:** They can be removed from office by the President only in the manner and on the grounds mentioned in the Constitution. This means that they do not hold their office during the pleasure of the President, though they are appointed by him.
- **Fixed Service Conditions:** The salaries, allowances, privileges, leave and pension of the judges of the Supreme Court are determined from time to time by the Parliament. They cannot be changed to their disadvantage after their appointment except during a financial emergency. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- **Expenses Charged on Consolidated Fund:** The salaries, allowances and **pensions of the judges and the staff** as well as all the administrative expenses of the Supreme Court **are charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.** Thus, they are non-votable by the Parliament. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Conduct of Judges cannot be Discussed:** The Constitution prohibits any discussion in Parliament or in a State Legislature with respect to the conduct of the judges of the Supreme Court in the discharge of their duties, except when an impeachment motion is under consideration of the Parliament.
- **Ban on Practice after Retirement:** The retired judges of the Supreme Court are prohibited from pleading or acting in any Court or before any authority within the territory of India. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- **Its Jurisdiction cannot be Curtailed:** The **Parliament is not authorised to curtail the jurisdiction** and powers of the Supreme Court. However, the Parliament can extend the same. Hence **statement 4 is not correct.**

Q 74.D

- **Article 43A** directs the state to take steps to secure the participation of workers in the management of industries. This is a socialistic principle. **Hence pair 1 is not correctly matched.**
- **Article 47** directs the state to prohibit the consumption of intoxicating drinks and drugs which are injurious to health. This is a Gandhian Principle. **Hence pair 2 is not correctly matched.**
- **Article 44** directs the state to secure for all citizens a uniform civil code throughout the country. This is a liberal-intellectual principle. **Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched.**

Q 75.B

- **Article 22 grants protection to persons who are arrested or detained.** Detention is of two types, namely, punitive and preventive.
- The second part of Article 22 grants protection to persons who are arrested or detained under a preventive detention law. This protection is available to both citizens as well as aliens.
- The Constitution has divided the legislative power with regard to preventive detention between the **Parliament and the state legislatures.**
  - The Parliament has exclusive authority to make a law of preventive detention for reasons connected with **defense, foreign affairs, and the security of India.**
  - Both the Parliament as well as the state legislatures can concurrently make a law of preventive detention for reasons connected with the **security of a state, the maintenance of public order, and the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the community. Hence option 1 is not correct.**
- The grounds of detention should be communicated to the detenu that is Mr X in this case. However, the facts considered to be against the public interest need not be disclosed. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- The detenu should be afforded an **opportunity to make a representation** against the detention order.
- The detention of a person cannot exceed **three months** unless an advisory board reports sufficient cause for extended detention. The board is to consist of judges of a high court. **Hence statement 3 is correct.**

Q 76.A

- The Constitution of India has borrowed and modified various provisions from the constitutions of various other countries as well as from the Government of India Act of 1935.
- The structural part of the Constitution is, to a large extent, derived from the Government of India Act of 1935.
- Major sources are tabulated below.

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	Sources	Features Borrowed
1.	Government of India Act of 1935	Federal Scheme, Office of governor, Judiciary, Public Service Commissions, Emergency provisions and administrative details.
2.	British Constitution	Parliamentary government, Rule of Law, legislative procedure, single citizenship, cabinet system, prerogative writs, parliamentary privileges and bicameralism.
3.	US Constitution	Fundamental rights, independence of judiciary, judicial review, impeachment of the president, removal of Supreme Court and high court judges and post of vice-president.
4.	Irish Constitution	Directive Principles of State Policy, nomination of members to Rajya Sabha and method of election of president.
5.	Canadian Constitution	Federation with a strong Centre, vesting of residuary powers in the Centre, appointment of state governors by the Centre, and advisory jurisdiction of the Supreme Court.
6.	Australian Constitution	Concurrent List, freedom of trade, commerce and inter-course, and joint sitting of the two Houses of Parliament.
7.	Weimar Constitution of Germany	Suspension of Fundamental Rights during Emergency.
	Soviet Constitution	Fundamental duties and the ideal of justice (social,

- **Hence only pairs 1 and 2 are correctly matched.**

Q 77.B

- **Article 34** provides for the **restrictions on fundamental rights while martial law is in force in any area** within the territory of India. It empowers the Parliament to indemnify any government servant or any other person for any act done by him in connection with the maintenance or restoration of order in any area where martial law was in force.
- **Martial Law suspends the Government and ordinary law courts** whereas National Emergency continues the government and ordinary law courts. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- While **National Emergency** has specific and detailed provisions in the Constitution and is **explicit**, **Martial Law** has no specific provisions in the Constitution and is **implicit.**
- Martial Law affects only **Fundamental Rights** while National Emergency affects not only Fundamental Rights but also Centre-state relations, distribution of revenues, and legislative powers between center and states and may extend the tenure of the Parliament. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Q 78.B

- The state judiciary consists of a high court and a hierarchy of subordinate courts.
- **Constitutional provisions** related to Subordinate Courts:
  - Appointment of persons (other than district judges) to the judicial service of a state is made by the governor of the state after consultation with the State Public Service Commission and the high court.
  - The **control over district courts** and other subordinate courts including the **posting, promotion, and leave of persons belonging to the judicial service** of a state and holding any post inferior to the post of district judge is **vested in the high court. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The district judge is also the sessions judge. When he deals with civil cases, he is known as the district judge and when he hears the criminal cases, he is called as the sessions judge. Appeals against his orders and judgments lie to the High Court. **The sessions judge has the power to impose any sentence including life imprisonment and capital punishment (death sentence).** However, a capital punishment passed by him is subject to confirmation by the High Court, whether there is an appeal or not. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

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- Below the District and Sessions Court stands the Court of Subordinate Judge on the civil side and the Court of Chief Judicial Magistrate on the criminal side. The subordinate judge exercises unlimited pecuniary jurisdiction over civil suits. **The chief judicial magistrate decides criminal cases which are punishable with imprisonment for a term up to seven years. Hence statement 3 is correct.**
- At the lowest level, on the civil side, is the **Court of Munsiff** and on the criminal side, is the **Court of Judicial Magistrate.** The munsiff possesses limited jurisdiction and decides civil cases of small pecuniary stake4. The judicial magistrate tries criminal cases which are punishable with imprisonment for a term up to three years.

Q 79.B

- On the basis of the relationship between the centre and the units, the governments may be classified as unitary and federal. In a unitary government, all the powers of government are vested in the central government whereas in a federal government, the powers of government are divided between the centre and the units.
- **Statement 1 is not correct:** A unitary government system is based on the concept of consistency, unity, and identity that's why the centralization of power and authority system remains at the top priority. On the other hand, in a federal government, the powers of administration are divided between the centre and the units.
- **Statement 2 is correct: A federal government must have a written constitution.** A federation is a political partnership of various states and consequently, there must be a written agreement in the form of a written constitution. However, **A unitary government may or may not have a written constitution.** For example, England and France are unitary states. France has a written constitution but England has none.
- **Statement 3 is not correct:** The constitution of a federation should be more or less rigid. It is regarded as a sacred agreement, the spirit of which should not be easily violated. **Unlike a federation, a unitary state may or may not have a rigid constitution,** e.g., the constitution of England is flexible but that of France is slightly rigid

Q 80.A

- **The Supreme Court** is authorised to grant in its **discretion special leave to appeal** from any judgement in any matter passed by any court or tribunal in the country (except military tribunal and court-martial). This provision contains the four aspects as under:
  - It is a **discretionary** power and hence, **cannot be claimed as a matter of right. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
  - It can be granted in any **judgement** whether final or **interlocutory**. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**
  - It may be related to any matter–constitutional, civil, criminal, income-tax, labour, revenue, advocates, etc.
  - It can be granted against any **court or tribunal** and not necessarily against a high court (of course, **except a military court). Hence statement 3 is not correct. Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**
- Thus, the scope of this provision is very wide and it vests the Supreme Court with a plenary jurisdiction to hear appeals. On the exercise of this power, the Supreme Court itself held that 'being an exceptional and overriding power, it has to be exercised sparingly and with caution and only in special extraordinary situations. Beyond that it is not possible to fetter the exercise of this power by any set formula or rule'.

Q 81.A

- The features or principles of parliamentary government in India are:
  - The President is the nominal executive (de jure executive or titular executive) while the Prime Minister is the real executive (de facto executive). **Hence, option (1) is correct.**
  - The political party which secures majority seats in the Lok Sabha forms the government.
  - The ministers are collectively responsible to the Parliament in general and to the Lok Sabha in particular. **Hence, option (3) is correct.**
  - Political Homogeneity exists as usual members of the council of ministers belong to the same political party, and hence they share the same political ideology.
  - The Prime Minister plays the leadership role in this system of government. He is the leader of the council of ministers, leader of the Parliament, and leader of the party in power.
  - The lower house of the Parliament (Lok Sabha) can be dissolved by the President on the recommendation of the Prime Minister.
- The Indian Parliament is not a sovereign body like the British Parliament. The doctrine of the sovereignty of Parliament is associated with the British Parliament. **Hence, option (2) is not correct.**

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Q 82.D

- As a **Court of Record,** a high court has the **power to punish for contempt of court**, either with simple imprisonment or with fine or with both. The expression '**contempt of court' has not been defined by the Constitution.** However, the expression has been defined by the **Contempt of Court Act of 1971. Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Under this, contempt of court may be **civil or criminal.** Civil contempt means wilful disobedience to any judgement, order, writ or other process of a court or wilful breach of an undertaking given to a court. Criminal contempt means
  - the publication of any matter or doing an act which scandalises or **lowers the authority of a court; Hence statement 3 is correct.**
  - prejudices or interferes with the due course of a judicial proceeding; or
  - interferes or obstructs the administration of justice in any other manner.
- However, innocent publication and distribution of some matter, fair and accurate report of judicial proceedings, fair and reasonable criticism of judicial acts and comment on the administrative side of the judiciary do not amount to contempt of court.
- Both the Supreme Court as well as High Courts are courts of record. Both the Supreme Court (Article 129)) and High Court (Article 215) have the powers to punish any person for their contempt. Under the provisions of the Contempt of Court Act provides that a **court subordinate to a high court has no powers** to initiate Contempt of Court proceedings. **Hence statement 2 is correct**.
- However the Supreme Court has ruled that it has power to punish for contempt not only of itself but also of high courts, subordinate courts and tribunals functioning in the entire country. Similarly the High Court can take cognizance of an alleged contempt having been committed in respect of subordinate courts.
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 83.A

- **Article 14** says that the State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India.
- But there are many exceptions to the right to equality provided under **Article 361 of the Indian Constitution:**
  - No **criminal proceedings** shall be instituted or continued against the President or the Governor in any court during his term of office.
  - Similarly, No civil proceedings against the President or the Governor shall be instituted during his term of office in any court in respect of any act done by him in his personal capacity, whether before or after he entered upon his office, **until the expiration of two months next after notice has been delivered to him. Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
  - The President or the Governor is not answerable to any court for the exercise and performance of the powers and duties of his office. **Hence statement 2 is correct.**

Q 84.B

- **Advanced Chaff Technology:**
  - Defense Research and Development Organisation **(DRDO) has developed** an Advanced Chaff Technology to safeguard the naval ships against enemy missile attacks. Defence Laboratory Jodhpur (DLJ), a DRDO laboratory, has indigenously developed three variants of this critical technology namely Short Range Chaff Rocket (SRCR), Medium-Range Chaff Rocket (MRCR), and Long Range Chaff Rocket (LRCR) meeting Indian Navy's qualitative requirements.
  - Recently, the Indian **Navy conducted trials of all three variants** in the Arabian Sea on an Indian Naval Ship and found the performance satisfactory.
  - Chaff is **a passive expendable electronic countermeasure technology used worldwide to protect naval ships from enemy radar and Radio Frequency (RF) missile seekers**. The importance of this development lies in the fact that a very little quantity of chaff material deployed in the air acts as decoy to deflect enemy's missiles for the safety of the ships.
- **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**

Q 85.B

- **Schistura Hiranyakeshi:**
  - **Maharashtra** declared an area at **Amboli in Western ghats in Sindhudurg district**, where a rare freshwater fish species was discovered, as a biodiversity heritage site. The new freshwater fish species was discovered near Amboli in Sawantwadi tehsil of Sindhudurg district.
  - Schistura Hiranyakeshi is **a rare sub-species of Schistura, a freshwater loach**. The fish was named after the Hiranyakeshi river near Amboli village.

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- **Subdoluseps Nilgiriensis (Asian Gracile skink):**
  - A new species of an Asian gracile skink has been discovered recently **at Anaikatti hills, Coimbatore.**
  - New species of Asian Gracile skink have been found from the dry leeward slopes of the **Nilgiri hills**, **Tamil Nadu** state. New species are closely related to **Subdoluseps Pruthi** that is found in **parts of the Eastern Ghats**. The new species was found in a dry deciduous area, showing that even the dry zones of our country are home to unrealized skink diversity which needs to be further explored.
  - It is currently considered a vulnerable species as there are potential threats from seasonal forest fires, housing constructions, and brick kiln industries in the area.
- **Disk-footed bat:**
  - **Meghalaya** has yielded India's **first bamboo-dwelling bat with sticky disks**, taking the species count of the flying mammal in the country to 130. The disk-footed bat (Eudiscopus denticulus) was recorded in the north-eastern State's Lailad area near the Nongkhyllem Wildlife Sanctuary, about 1,000 km west of its nearest known habitat in Myanmar. **Hence option (b) is the correct answer.**
  - India's first bamboo-dwelling bat with sticky disks has been found near **Nongkhyllem Wildlife Sanctuary in Meghalaya.**

Q 86.D

- **Recent Context:** World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has approved dried blood spot (DBS) testing technique for the Tokyo Olympics.
- DBS is an innovative method of screening for banned substances in which few drops of blood is taken and put on a kind of blotting paper (dry matrix).
  - The sample is analysed using an appropriate solvent which extracts the biological material that is required for the test.
  - It is less invasive methods than current urine and blood collection and therefore, a better athlete experience.
- **The benefits of this Dried Blood Spot testing for blood collection and transport has led the World Health Organization to recommend DBS for HIV and hepatitis B and C diagnosis.**
  - HIV: Unlike ELISA testing for HIV-antibodies in the blood, which may be transmitted to infants in pregnancy independently of the virus itself, dried blood spot testing can be used to detect genetic material of the actual virus, thereby avoiding the likelihood of a false positive result. Dried blood spot testing for HIV is not considered sensitive enough for diagnostic testing, but may be useful in estimating prevalence of HIV through surveillance.
  - Hepatitis B & C: Use of DBS for hepatitis B and C screening may simplify sample collection and preparation (e.g. through collection of finger-prick blood samples) and improve the ability to store and transport samples for testing.
    - ✓ Starting with the sample collection method, blood can easily be collected from pricking a finger or a heel, thus reducing the need for more highly-trained health-care workers.
    - ✓ For DBS, less blood volume is required than in conventional venepuncture, and sample preparation is simple (it does not require electrical power, or a centrifuge), and inexpensive.
    - ✓ Furthermore, once collected, the handling of the samples is rendered more easy: samples are less cumbersome, and can be transported in little space and at room temperature thus reducing or eliminating need for cold chain.
    - ✓ Finally, individuals conducting the tests on the samples have a reduced risk of contamination once the blood has dried.
  - **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 87.D

- **Citizenship by incorporation of territory**: If any territory becomes a part of India, the Central Government may, by order notified in the Official Gazette, specify the persons who shall be citizens of India by reason of their connection with that territory; and those persons shall be citizens of India as from the date to be specified in the order. **There is no requirement of formalities such as an oath of allegiance to the constitution** in such cases. **Hence statement 3 is not correct**
- The **person to whom a certificate of naturalisation is granted shall mandatorily take an oath of allegiance to the Constitution of India** in the form specified in the Second Schedule and would be thereafter considered a citizen of India by naturalisation. **Hence statement 2 is correct**
- An individual who is eligible for the **acquisition of citizenship of India by the mode of Registration must take an oath of allegiance to the Constitution of India before they are registered as a citizen of India**. **Hence statement 1 is correct**

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- **Citizenship by birth —** A **person does not require to take an oath of allegiance to the Constitution** of India if he acquires the citizenship of India under the provisions "By Birth" mode of citizenship acquisition. **Hence statement 4 is not correct**

Q 88.C

- The concept of **Public Interest Litigation (PIL)** originated and developed in the USA in the 1960s. In India, the PIL is a product of the **judicial activism** role of the Supreme Court. It was **introduced in the early 1980s**. Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer and Justice P.N. Bhagwati were the pioneers of the concept of PIL. It is **not mentioned in the Constitution of India. Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
- The introduction of PIL in India was facilitated by the **relaxation** of the traditional rule of **'locus standi'**. According to this rule, only that person whose rights are infringed alone can move the court for the remedies, whereas, the PIL is an exception to this traditional rule. Under the PIL, **any public-spirited citizen** or a social organisation **can move the court** for the enforcement of the rights of any person or group of persons who because of their poverty or ignorance or socially or economically disadvantaged position are themselves unable to approach the court for the remedies. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- PIL is absolutely necessary for maintaining the rule of law, furthering the cause of justice and accelerating the pace of realisation of the constitutional objectives.
- The Courts in exercise of powers under **Articles 32 and 226** of the Constitution can entertain a petition filed by any interested person in the welfare of the people who are in a disadvantaged position and thus not in a position to knock the doors of the Court. **Hence both the High court and supreme court have the power to entertain a PIL. Hence statement 2 is correct.**
- **Hence option (c) is the correct answer.**
- In order to check the misuse of PIL, the Supreme Court laid down guidelines such as
  - The Court should prima facie verify the credentials of the petitioner before entertaining the PIL.
  - The Court should be fully satisfied that substantial public interest is involved before entertaining the petition. etc.

Q 89.B

Objectives Resolution

- On December 13, 1946, Jawaharlal Nehru moved the historic 'Objectives Resolution' in the Assembly. It laid down the fundamentals and philosophy of the constitutional structure. It read:
  - "This Constituent Assembly declares its firm and solemn resolve to proclaim India as an Independent Sovereign Republic and to draw up for her future governance a Constitution:
  - Wherein the territories that now comprise British India, the territories that now form the Indian States, and such other parts of India as are outside India and the States as well as other territories as are willing to be constituted into the independent sovereign India, shall be a Union of them all; and
  - wherein **the said territories**, whether with their present boundaries or with such others as may be determined by the Constituent Assembly and thereafter according to the law of the Constitution, **shall possess and retain** the status of autonomous units together with **residuary powers** and exercise all powers and functions of Government and administration save and except such powers and functions as are vested in or assigned to the Union or as are inherent or implied in the Union or resulting therefrom; and. **Hence, option 1 is not correct.**
  - wherein all power and authority of the Sovereign Independent India, its constituent parts and organs of Government are derived from the people; and. **Hence option 4 is correct.**
  - wherein shall be guaranteed and secured to all the people of India justice, social, economic and political; equality of status of opportunity, and before the law; freedom of thought, expression, belief, faith, worship, vocation, association and action, subject to law and public morality; and
  - wherein adequate safeguards shall be provided for minorities, backward and tribal areas, and depressed and other backward classes; and. **Hence option 2 is correct.**
  - whereby shall be maintained the integrity of the territory of the Republic and its sovereign rights on land, sea and air according to justice and the law of civilized nations; and
  - This ancient land attains its rightful and honoured place in the world and makes its full and willing contribution to the promotion of world peace and the welfare of mankind." **Hence option 3 is correct.**
- This Resolution was unanimously adopted by the Assembly on January 22, 1947. It influenced the eventual shaping of the constitution through all its subsequent stages. Its modified version forms the Preamble of the present Constitution.

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Q 90.D

- **Recent Context:** The Meghalaya government has defended its plan to dam Umngot, arguably India's clearest river, despite protests from more than a dozen villages downstream. The villages in the West Khasi Hills district are near the border with Bangladesh but the site of the proposed 210 MW Umngot Hydroelectric Project is upstream in the adjoining West Jaintia Hills district. **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**
- **Umngot River: Umngot flows through Dawki, a small but busy town in the East Jaintia Hills district near the Indo-Bangladesh border. The river is the natural boundary between Ri Pnar (of Jaintia Hills) with Hima Khyrim (of Khasi Hills). It is the gateway to Bangladesh.**
    - The river Umngot, flowing towards the south, starts its journey from the eastern part of the Shillong peak. It is a tributary of the Surma River in Bangladesh. At the final lap of its journey, it enters the plains of Bangladesh. Umngot River is also called by the name Dawki River, which has greenish-bluish color transparent water.

Q 91.C

- Article 368 provides for two types of amendments, that is, by a special majority of Parliament and also through the ratification of half of the states by a simple majority.
- But, some other articles provide for the amendment of certain provisions of the Constitution by a simple majority of Parliament, that is, a majority of the members of each House present and voting (similar to the ordinary legislative process).
- These amendments are not deemed to be amendments of the Constitution for the purposes of Article 368.
- Therefore, the Constitution can be amended in three ways:
    - **Amendment by simple majority of the Parliament**
        - ✓ Admission or establishment of new states.
        - ✓ Formation of new states and alteration of areas, boundaries or names of existing states.
        - ✓ Abolition or creation of legislative councils in states.
        - ✓ Second Schedule—emoluments, allowances, privileges and so on of the president, the governors, the Speakers, judges, etc.
        - ✓ Quorum in Parliament.
        - ✓ Salaries and allowances of the members of Parliament.
        - ✓ Rules of procedure in Parliament.
        - ✓ Privileges of the Parliament, its members and its committees.
        - ✓ Use of English language in Parliament.
        - ✓ Number of puisne judges in the Supreme Court.
        - ✓ **Conferment of more jurisdiction on the Supreme Court. Hence option 3 is correct.**
        - ✓ Use of official language.
        - ✓ Citizenship—acquisition and termination.
        - ✓ Elections to Parliament and state legislatures.
        - ✓ **Delimitation of constituencies. Hence option 1 is correct.**
        - ✓ Union territories.
        - ✓ Fifth Schedule—administration of scheduled areas and scheduled tribes.
        - ✓ Sixth Schedule—administration of tribal areas.
    - **By Special Majority of Parliament and Consent of States**
    - Those provisions of the Constitution which are related to the federal structure of the polity can be amended by a special majority of the Parliament and also with the consent of half of the state legislatures by a simple majority. The following provisions can be amended in this way:
        - ✓ Election of the President and its manner.
        - ✓ Extent of the executive power of the Union and the states.
        - ✓ Supreme Court and high courts.
        - ✓ Distribution of legislative powers between the Union and the states.
        - ✓ **Any of the lists in the Seventh Schedule. Hence, option 2 is not correct.**
        - ✓ Representation of states in Parliament.
        - ✓ Power of Parliament to amend the Constitution and its procedure (Article 368 itself).
    - **By Special Majority of Parliament**
        - ✓ It means the majority (that is, more than 50 percent) of the total membership of each House and a majority of two-thirds of the members of each House present and voting.
        - ✓ The expression 'total membership' means the total number of members comprising the House irrespective of fact whether there are vacancies or absentees. The provisions which can be amended by this way includes:

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- Fundamental Rights
- Directive Principles of State Policy; and
- All other provisions which are not covered by the first and third categories.

Q 92.D

- The Supreme Court (under Article 32) and the high courts (under Article 226) can issue the writs of habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, certiorari, and quo-warranto.
- **Habeas Corpus** is a Latin term which literally means '**to have the body of'.**
- It is an order issued by the court to a person who has detained another person, to produce the body of the latter before it.
- The court then examines the cause and legality of detention. It would set the detained person free if the detention is found to be illegal.
- Thus, this writ is a bulwark of individual liberty against arbitrary detention.
- The writ, on the other hand, is not issued
  - where the person against whom the writ is issued or the person who is detained is not within the jurisdiction of the Court.
  - to secure the release of a person who has been imprisoned by a court of law on a criminal charge.
  - to interfere with the proceeding for contempt by a court of record or by Parliament.
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 93.C

- A non-democratic form of government is where an individual or a single party concentrates all power. Some non-democratic governments can be classified into categories such as:
  - Monarchy is a form of government in which a state is ruled by an individual who typically inherits the throne by birth and rules for life or until abdication.
  - An oligarchy is a form of the power structure in which power effectively rests with a small number of people. These people could be distinguished by royalty, wealth, family ties, education, corporate, or military control.
  - **A technocracy is a form of government in which experts in technology would be in control of all decision-making. Scientists, engineers, and technologists who have knowledge, expertise, or skills, would compose the governing body, instead of politicians, businessmen, and economists. Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.**
  - A theocracy is a form of government in which religious leaders acting in the place of God rule the state. It is a form of government in which official policy is governed by immediate divine guidance or by officials who are regarded as divinely guided or is pursuant to the doctrine of a particular religion or religious group.
  - An aristocracy is a form of government in which a few elite citizens rule; this is usually contrasted with democracy, in which all citizens are able to rule.

Q 94.D

- The Citizenship Act, 1955 lays down the three modes by which an Indian citizen, whether a citizen at the commencement of the Constitution or subsequent to it, may lose his/her citizenship. It may happen in any of the three ways: renunciation, termination, and deprivation.
- Renunciation Of Citizenship: An Indian Citizen of full age and capacity can renounce his Indian citizenship by making a declaration to that effect and having it registered. But if such a declaration is made during any war in which India is engaged, the registration shall be withheld until the Central Government otherwise directs. **When a male person renounces his citizenship, every minor child of him ceases to be an Indian citizen.** Such a child may, however, resume Indian citizenship if he makes a declaration to that effect within a year of his attaining full age, i.e. 18 years.
- Termination Of Citizenship: **If a citizen of India voluntarily acquires the citizenship of another country, he shall cease to be a citizen of India.** During the war period, this provision does not apply to a citizen of India, who acquires the citizenship of another country in which India may be engaged voluntarily. If any question arises as to whether, when, or how any person has acquired the citizenship of another country, it is to be determined by such authority and in such manner as may be prescribed by the rules. **Hence statement 1 is correct.**
- Deprivation Of Citizenship: Deprivation is a compulsory termination of citizenship of India. A citizen of India by naturalization, registration, domicile, and residence, may be deprived of his citizenship by an order of the Central Government if it is satisfied that:
  - The citizen has obtained the citizenship by means of fraud, false representation, or concealment of any material fact;

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- The citizen has shown disloyalty to the Constitution of India;
- The **citizen has unlawfully traded or communicated with the enemy during a war;**
- The citizen has, within five years after registration or neutralization, been imprisoned in any country for two years;
- **The citizen has been ordinarily resident out of India for seven years continuously.**

- **Hence statement 2 is correct while statement 3 is not correct.**

Q 95.B

- A democratic polity can be classified into two categories—monarchy and republic. In a monarchy, the head of the state (usually king or queen) enjoys a hereditary position, that is, he comes into office through succession, eg, Britain.
- In a republic, on the other hand, the head of the state is always elected **directly or indirectly** for a fixed period, eg, the USA. **Hence, statement 1 is not correct.**
- Therefore, the term 'republic' in our Preamble indicates that India has an elected head called the president. He is elected indirectly for a fixed period of five years.
- A republic also means two more things:
  - one, **vesting of political sovereignty in the people and not in a single individual like a king**; **Hence, statement 2 is correct.**
  - second, **the absence of any privileged class** and hence all public offices being opened to every citizen without any discrimination. **Hence, statement 3 is correct.**

Q 96.A

- **Recent Context:** In April Chad's President, Idriss Déby Itno, was killed while inspecting troops fighting a rebel insurgency in the North of the country.
  - Members of the rebel group, Front for Change and Concord in Chad (FACT), crossed Chad's Northern border from Libya on 11th April and began to move towards the capital.
  - The attack came after election results which returned Idriss Déby for a sixth term with over 80% of the vote, despite widespread accusations of fraud and a crackdown on opposition parties.
  - This year's election followed a controversial constitutional reform in 2018 which saw Déby, who has been in power since overthrowing his former ally, Hissène Habré, in 1990, discount his previous terms allowing himself to run twice more.
  - It was while visiting Chadian troops combatting the FACT incursion that Déby was killed with exact details of why he was on the frontline yet to be confirmed.
- **Chad is bordered by Libya, Niger, Nigeria, Cameroon, Central African Republic and Sudan.**

- **Hence option (a) is the correct answer.**

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Q 97.A

- A judge of the Supreme Court can be removed from his office by an order of the president. The President can issue the removal order only after an address by Parliament has been presented to him in the same session for such removal. The address must be supported by a **special majority of each House of Parliament** (a majority of the total membership of that House and a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of that House present and voting). The grounds of removal are two – **proved misbehaviour or incapacity.**
- **The Judges Enquiry Act (1968)** regulates the procedure relating to the removal of a judge of the Supreme Court by the **process of impeachment:**
  - A removal motion **signed by 100 members** (in the case of **Lok Sabha**) or **50 members** (in the case of **Rajya Sabha**) is to be given to the Speaker/ Chairman. **Hence statement 1 is correct and statement 3 is not correct.**
  - The Speaker/Chairman may admit the motion or refuse to admit it.
  - If it is admitted, then the Speaker/ Chairman is to constitute a three-member committee to investigate the charges. The committee should consist of
    - ✓ the chief justice or a judge of the Supreme Court,
    - ✓ chief justice of a high court, and
    - ✓ a distinguished jurist. **Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
  - If the committee finds the judge to be guilty of misbehaviour or suffering from an incapacity, the House can take up the consideration of the motion. After the motion is passed by each House of Parliament by a special majority, an address is presented to the president for removal of the judge.
  - Finally, the president passes an order removing the judge.
- It is interesting to know that **no judge of the Supreme Court has been impeached so far.** The first case of impeachment is that of Justice V. Ramaswami of the Supreme Court (1991–1993). Though the enquiry Committee found him guilty of misbehaviour, he could not be removed as the impeachment motion was defeated in the Lok Sabha. **Hence statement 4 is correct.**

Q 98.D

- The **Indian Constitution** has established an **integrated judicial system** with the Supreme Court at the top and the high courts below it. Under a high court (and below the state level), there is a hierarchy of subordinate courts, that is, district courts and other lower courts.
- This **single system of courts,** adopted from the **Government of India Act of 1935**, enforces both Central laws as well as state laws. In the USA, on the other hand, the federal laws are enforced by the federal judiciary and the state laws are enforced by the state judiciary. There is thus a **double system of courts in the USA –** one for the centre and the other for the states. **Hence statement 1 is not correct.**
- The Constitution has not fixed the tenure of a judge of the Supreme Court. However, it makes the following three provisions in this regard:
  - He holds office until he attains the age of 65 years. Any question regarding his age is to be determined by such authority and in such manner as provided by Parliament.
  - **He can resign his office by writing to the president. Hence statement 2 is not correct.**
  - He can be removed from his office by the President on the recommendation of the Parliament.
- **Article 312** makes the following provisions in respect of all-India services:The **Parliament can create** new all India services **(including an all-India judicial service),** if the Rajya Sabha passes a resolution declaring that it is necessary or expedient in the national interest to do so. Such a resolution in the Rajya Sabha should be supported by two-thirds of the members present and voting. This power of recommendation is given to the Rajya Sabha to protect the interests of states in the Indian federal system. **Hence statement 3 is not correct.**
- **Hence option (d) is the correct answer.**

Q 99.A

- The Constitution of India provides for a federal system of government in the country. The federal features of the Constitution of India are explained below:
  - The Constitution establishes a dual polity consisting the Union at the Centre and the states at the periphery. Each is endowed with sovereign powers to be exercised in the field assigned to them respectively by the Constitution. The Constitution divided the powers between the Centre and the states in terms of the Union List, State List and Concurrent List in the Seventh Schedule. **Hence, option (1) is correct.**
  - The Constitution is not only a written document but also the lengthiest Constitution of the world. It specifies the structure, organisation, powers and functions of both the Central and state governments

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and prescribes the limits within which they must operate. **The Constitution is the supreme (or the highest) law of the land. The laws enacted by the Centre and the states must conform to its provisions. Otherwise, they can be declared invalid by the Supreme Court or the high courts through their power of judicial review. Hence, option (2) is correct.**

- The Constitution establishes an independent judiciary headed by the Supreme Court for two purposes: one, to protect the supremacy of the Constitution by exercising the power of judicial review; and two, to settle the disputes between the Centre and the states or between the states.
- **The Constitution provides for a bicameral legislature consisting of an Upper House (Rajya Sabha) and a Lower House (Lok Sabha). The Rajya Sabha represents the states of the Indian Federation, while the Lok Sabha represents the people of India as a whole.** The Rajya Sabha (even though a less powerful chamber) is required to maintain the federal equilibrium by protecting the interests of the states against the undue interference of the Centre. **Hence, option (3) is correct.**
- **All-India Services (IAS, IPS, and IFS)are common to both the Centre and the states. The members of these services are recruited and trained by the Centre which also possesses ultimate control over them. Thus, these services violate the principle of federalism under the Constitution. Hence, option (4) is not correct.**

Q 100.A

- The justiciability of Fundamental Rights and non-justiciability of Directive Principles on the one hand and the moral obligation of State to implement Directive Principles (Article 37) on the other hand have led to a conflict between the two since the commencement of the Constitution.
- The conflict between Fundamental Rights (FR) and Directive Principles (DPSP) have evolved through various case judgments as discussed below:
  - **Champakam Dorairajan case (1951)**
    - ✓ The Supreme Court ruled that in case of any conflict between the Fundamental Rights and the Directive Principles, the former would prevail. **Hence pair 1 is correctly matched.**
    - ✓ But, it also held that the Fundamental Rights could be amended by the Parliament by enacting constitutional amendment acts.
    - ✓ As a result, the Parliament made the First Amendment Act (1951), the Fourth Amendment Act (1955) and the Seventeenth Amendment Act (1964) to implement some of the Directives.
  - **Golaknath case (1967).**
    - ✓ The Court held that the Fundamental Rights cannot be amended for the implementation of the Directive Principles. **Hence pair 2 is correctly matched.**
  - **24th Amendment Act (1971)**
    - ✓ The 24th Amendment Act declared that the Parliament has the power to abridge or take away any of the Fundamental Rights by enacting Constitutional Amendment Acts.
  - **25th Amendment Act (1971)**
    - ✓ It inserted a new Article 31C which contained the following two provisions:
      - No law which seeks to implement the socialistic Directive Principles specified in Article 39 (b) and 39 (c)shall be void on the ground of contravention of the Fundamental Rights conferred by Article 14 (equality before law and equal protection of laws), Article 19 (protection of six rights in respect of speech, assembly, movement, etc) or Article 31 (right to property).
      - No law containing a declaration for giving effect to such policy shall be questioned in any court on the ground that it does not give effect to such a policy.
  - **Kesavananda Bharati case** (1973)
    - ✓ The Court declared the second provision of Article 31C as unconstitutional and invalid on the ground that judicial review is a basic feature of the Constitution and hence, cannot be taken away. However, the above first provision of Article 31C was held to be constitutional and valid.
  - **42nd Amendment Act (1976)**
    - ✓ It extended the scope of the above first provision of Article 31C by including within its protection any law to implement any of the Directive Principles and not merely those specified in Article 39 (b) and (c).
  - **Minerva Mills case (1980)**
    - ✓ The extension was declared as unconstitutional and invalid by the Supreme Court
    - ✓ The Fundamental Rights conferred by Article 14 and Article 19 were accepted as subordinate to the Directive Principles specified in Article 39 (b) and (c) not all the DPSP. **Hence pair 3 is not correctly matched.**

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